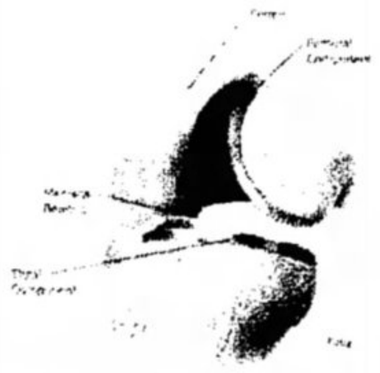
THE Valley INDEPENDENT
An Edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Pens fall to Caps

Despite two goals and an assist from Evgeni Malkin, the Penguins could not hold off the Capitals. **1B**



Valley Health

Two area orthopedic surgeons are performing partial knee replacement procedures. **7A**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008 RELEVANT, RELIABLE WWW.VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 50¢

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Markets plunge

World stock markets have slid for a second straight day. **5A**

Dog law push on

Gov. Ed Rendell wants to overhaul rules governing dog kennels and puppy breeding farms. **3A**

Demolition set

Demolition of the former St. Francis Central Hospital is expected to begin later this week or next week to make way for a new arena for the Pittsburgh Penguins. **3A**

Quick fix sought

President Bush and top congressional leaders are seeking a quick agreement on how to avoid a possible recession. **5A**

SPORTS

Dungy stays

After much thought, discussion and prayer, Tony Dungy decided to stay with the Colts. **2B**

Clash tonight

Two unbeaten WPIAL powers will meet tonight when Major Corley's Monessen Lady Greyhounds play Washington. **1B**

DEATHS

- Audrey A. DiFlorio, 69, Boynton Beach, Fla., formerly of Monessen
- James H. Maple, 74, Bemus Point, N.Y.
- Ralph Silbaugh, 94, Fallowfield Township

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WEATHER

Tonight
Snow 19°
Tomorrow
Snow 25°

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Two sections, 18 pages

TOMORROW

Read Valley Business, which appears each Wednesday in *The Valley Independent*.

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Monessen raises out

Two management employees will feel the sting of new cuts to the budget.

By STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writer
swolford@tribweb.com

MONESSEN – Predicting fiscal woes, a councilman said budget cuts and layoffs might be needed to pull the city out of debt.

And the first step to cut expenditures from the 2008 budget was to eliminate raises for city Clerk/Administrator Rosalie Nicksich and police Chief Mark Gibson. Nicksich and Gibson are management employees.

Doptis

During a special council meeting Monday, councilmen Wayne Doptis, Jeffrey Gagatko and Jonmichael "Josh" Retos voted to eliminate $2,000 raises for Gibson and Nicksich.

Mayor Anthony Petaccia and former council members Mary Jo Smith and Dale Simpson approved the raises at a Dec. 19 meeting. Doptis and Gagatko opposed the move that night.

The raises angered the nonuniform employees represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, which sent a district liaison to speak to council last month. The union official called the raises "irresponsible" because its members had agreed to a wage freeze this year. The official predicted a grievance would be filed.

The city's police officers – represented by the Teamsters – received contracted raises of 60 cents per hour this year.

Petaccia defended the raises, saying Nicksich and Gibson "go above and beyond" their job duties, adding that many rank-and-file employees make more money based on overtime.

"They were deserving of something," Petaccia said.

Retos said it is "unfair" to the rest of the workers to grant raises

(See RAISES, Page 2A)

Rendell banking on some growth

Senate GOP budget analysts contend a $1.5 billion shortfall is possible.

By MARC LEVY
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG – With the economy in a tailspin, Gov. Ed Rendell is predicting his toughest budget season since his first year in office.

Rendell

However, he's still counting on economic growth in the coming year, though at a slower pace than the previous three years, and isn't ready to pull any austerity measures out of his toolbox.

Budgetmakers and economists say it's just too early to know whether Pennsylvania's financial situation will turn dire.

A $1.5 billion shortfall is not out of the question in the year starting July 1, Senate Republican budget analysts say. But administration officials counter that everything would have to go wrong for such a scenario to occur.

As revenue collections sag, some states are facing major financial difficulties, with California and New York both coping with projected multibillion-dollar shortfalls in next year's budgets.

In Pennsylvania, which has a budget this year of $27.2 billion, the latest revenue figures, from Dec. 31, show the state with a $176 million surplus.

The governor has dismissed the idea of proposing a tax increase when he delivers a 2008-09 spending plan to the Legislature on Feb. 5, but said spending on initiatives such as public schools grants will have to reflect a more modest outlook.

"We're still going to have growth next year, the forecast is, but it's going to be much slower," Rendell said, citing a forecast by economic firm Global Insight Inc.

At the same time, costs will be rising, in particular, the tab to provide medical care for the state's growing elderly population, he said.

Pension costs are also on the mind of budgetmakers, with the state's expected contribution of about $675 million this year projected to more than double in five years. More people are expected to join Medicaid rolls. And the state's prison population is growing by more than 1,000 a year at an annual cost of about $34,000 per inmate.

Rendell's budget secretary, Mike Masch, said most of the nation's economic fundamentals look pretty good despite the slowing trend, and he called any prediction of a $1.5 billion shortfall a worst-case scenario.

"That is a pessimistic, but possible, future," Masch said. "I

(See RENDELL, Page 2A)

Lyle Offerman spends a light moment this morning with Cinnamon at their home in Carroll Township. Cinnamon disappeared the day Lyle suffered burns while lighting a wood-burner. Surprisingly, Cinnamon was found in Donora the day Lyle returned home from West Penn Hospital.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Burn victim, missing dog both back home

Donora Fire Chief Patsy Vince discovered Cinnamon in the borough.

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
joliver@tribweb.com

CARROLL TOWNSHIP – Sunday was an extremely happy day for the Offerman family.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., Lyle Offerman came home from West Penn Hospital to be with his family.

Then, remarkably, 1 1/2 hours later, the family dog, Cinnamon, returned, too.

Offerman, 16, had been in the hospital nearly two weeks while recovering from third degree burns over 12 to 15 percent of his body. The teenager was burned in an accident Jan. 9 in the garage of his home at 125 Donora Road as he attempted to light a fire in a wood burner by using a little bit of gasoline.

Then, even after being severely burned, Offerman used a fire extinguisher to try to put out the fire as firefighters rushed to the scene.

Last week, his mother Christie pleaded for the return of the family dog, which had wandered into the woods earlier on the day of the accident and never returned. Cinnamon is a 12-year-old petite half-lab that is hard of hearing.

At the time, an obviously distressed Christie Offerman said her son was blaming himself because the dog was gone.

But after the Offermans returned home Sunday, they received a call from Donora Fire Chief Patsy Vince saying he had found the dog in the borough.

"He didn't say exactly where he found the dog and we didn't care," Christie Offerman said. "We were just so glad to have him home. It was amazing that right after Lyle came home, we had both of them home."

She said both her son and Cinnamon are doing well. The happy mom said Lyle is recovering nicely from his burns and that the dog "is a little thinner, but I will fatten him up again."

Christie Offerman said her family is thankful for all the efforts to help find the missing dog.

"It's amazing that he was gone 11 days and now he is home. We don't know where he was or how long he was out in the woods behind our home," she said. "But we are all so grateful.

"So many people were looking for Cinnamon and now they can all know everyone is home safe."

> "We were just so glad to have him home. It was amazing that right after Lyle came home, we had both of them home."
>
> CHRISTIE OFFERMAN

N. Charleroi out to reduce council size

Officials say it has become more and more difficult to fill all available seats.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com

NORTH CHARLEROI – For years, North Charleroi has been plagued by a problem other communities now face – a lack of people willing to serve in local government.

In November, there was just one candidate on the ballot for three open council positions. This was the second consecutive election in which only one person filed petitions to seek any of the three council positions available.

On Monday, council agreed it is time for a change as it agreed to start the process of reducing the panel from seven to five members. That vote was 5-0. William Moss, who won the second council seat available through a write-in campaign, was not present.

Council also voted to table the selection of a seventh council member. Former council members Joe Zelinsky and Pauline Price have applied for the position. Zelinsky was one of two council members who chose not to seek re-election last year.

Council President Joe Villella said Solicitor Christine Cardinale is studying how to most efficiently make the transition from seven to five council members.

It is possible the goal will not be achieved until the next local government election in 2009, Villella said. North Charleroi

(See REDUCE, Page 2A)

VALLEY PEOPLE

Rendell (FROM PAGE ONE)

will tell you, it's not the one we are assuming, because it assumes everything goes wrong, and it doesn't have to."

Rendell's arrival in office in 2003 came after the state began feeling the impact of the bursting tech bubble and the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Tourism tanked, Internet startups fizzled, companies slashed jobs and tax collections stagnated.

To balance the budget, Rendell's predecessor, Republican Mark Schweiker, had already raised more than $1.7 billion by tripling the tax rate on cigarette sales, draining much of the state's budget reserves, increasing landfill fees and borrowing from a state industrial development financing agency.

Rendell raised taxes by $1 billion through a 10 percent personal income tax increase, a one-third bump in cigarette taxes and new taxes on telephone usage. In the meantime, both governors found places to cut spending, including libraries and environmental programs.

The latest figures from December show that overall hiring in Pennsylvania slowed in 2007, inflation picked up and revenue collection softened.

With the home-sales market in shambles, the state's collection of realty transfer tax revenue was 18 percent behind where it was at this point a year ago.

Collection of corporate net income tax revenue is almost 10 percent behind and sales tax revenue is up by just a half percent.

Meanwhile, inflation in the northeastern states this past year was pegged at 3.8 percent.

Still, personal income tax revenue, which the state government leans on more than any other single tax, is up more than 5 percent. And lottery revenue, which supports prescription drugs and nursing home care for low-income seniors, is up 4 percent.

For now, economists say Pennsylvania's financial situation looks stable, and the worst effects of the housing bubble, construction slowdown and automobile industry upheaval are not being felt in the Keystone State.

Robert Dye, senior economist for PNC Financial Services Group in Pittsburgh, said more will be known about the curve of the economy on Jan. 30, when the government releases the preliminary figure for gross domestic production in the fourth quarter of 2007.

"States that were in a solid position going into the slowdown will weather the slowdown," Dye said.

"The states that have precarious budget situations going into the slowdown, such as California and New Jersey, will undoubtedly feel much more stress."

Yesteryear

Corrine Davis is pictured in 1948 as she walked along Donner Avenue in Monessen. Davis, now 89, still resides in Monessen with her daughter, Rosetta Aldrich. The photo was submitted by Davis' daughter Shirley West, also of Monessen.

If you have a good old-time photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

Reduce (FROM PAGE ONE)

wants to know if it must, by law, fill the vacancy on its board. If council remains at six members, Mayor Alfred Agamedi would have the task of breaking any tie votes.

"It's like this everywhere," Villella said. "There are even school boards appointing members."

Councilman Lee Hall said the public only becomes interested in serving when there is a controversial issue in the community.

Asked if merging municipalities could provide a solution, Villella said, "It's coming.

"Everybody's hanging on by a string."

Hall said regionalizing services would help.

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Weather

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 25	High 20	High 28	High 35	High 42
Low 14	Low 5	Low 10	Low 25	Low 28

Home medicine often dangerous

Traditional cures have been found to contain high lead levels.

By The Associated Press

HOUSTON – Maria didn't mean to poison her children. Quite the opposite.

Worried about her daughters' lack of appetite, the young Houston mother was merely following her grandmother's advice when she gave the two girls and a niece a dose of "greta" – a Mexican folk medicine used to treat children's stomach ailments.

What Maria, who asked that her last name not be used, did not know then, but now will never forget, is that the bright orange powder is nearly 90 percent lead.

Fortunately, doctors detected the dangerously high levels of the toxic metal in the little girls' blood during a routine checkup a week later.

But others are not so lucky. Health departments around the country say traditional medicines used by many immigrants from Latin America, India and other parts of Asia are the second most common source of lead poisoning in the U.S. – surpassed only by lead paint – and may account for tens of thousands of such cases among children each year.

Dozens of adults and children have become gravely ill or died after taking lead-laden medicine over the past eight years, according to federal and local health officials.

The dangerous medicines are manufactured outside the United States and sold in the U.S. by folk healers known as curanderas and in ethnic grocery stores and neighborhood shops that offer herbs and charms. They are usually brought into the country by travelers in their suitcases, thereby slipping past government regulators.

"No one's testing these medications," said Dr. Stefanos Kales, an assistant professor of environmental health at the Harvard School of Public Health who researched the problem. "There's no guarantee it doesn't have dangerous levels of lead."

Lead is added to many of the concoctions because of its supposed curative properties, even though doctors say it has no proven medical benefits. In other cases, powders and pills become contaminated with lead from soil or through the manufacturing process.

"Instead of doing something good for them, I did them more harm," said Maria, whose children have shown no ill effects. "I was so afraid of all the things that could happen to them. It was a terrible experience."

In Harris County, which includes Houston, traditional medicines are blamed for nearly one-fifth of all cases in which children were found to have high levels of lead. In Arizona, home remedies account for one-fourth of childhood lead poisoning cases.

In Texas, California and Arizona, lead poisoning has been traced to Mexican remedies such as greta, azarcon and rueda – powders that are given to treat constipation in children and contain as much as 90 percent lead. In New York City and Rhode Island, high lead levels in the blood have been tied to litargirio, a powder containing up to 79 percent lead.

It is used by Dominican immigrants for such ills as foot fungus and body odor.

Dangerous amounts of lead have also been found in ayurvedic medicines, which are used in India and commonly found in South Asian immigrant communities in New York, Chicago and Houston.

Raises (FROM PAGE ONE)

to only two employees

For Doptis, it was a small victory in a much bigger battle. He contends the city faces a $343,816 deficit that council must immediately tackle.

Doptis claims the budget, based on estimated revenue generated through real estate taxation, was balanced incorrectly. He said the budget was built on an estimate that 1 mill will generate $60,000.

"But we're only collecting 88 percent of the total taxes," Doptis said.

Doptis said that based on his calculations, council should have estimated each mill in property taxation will generate $53,000.

"We keep going deeper and deeper in the hole," Doptis said.

The mayor said that when Nicksich worked on the budget, she estimated $1.375 million in real estate tax revenue, down from $1.571 million estimated in 2007.

"She accounted for not collecting 100 percent of the taxes," Petaccia said.

The mayor and Doptis disagree on the deficit amount. Petaccia said an audit of the 2007 budget will reveal a deficit of about $70,000.

Praising Nicksich, Councilman John Harhai said balancing the budget is a complex process.

"She structured it properly," Harhai said. "If Rosalie didn't manage the finances the way she does, this city would be bankrupt. What she does to keep this city afloat, that's what we pay her for."

Doptis questioned the budget process.

"Moving this money around, back and forth, may all be fine and, yes, you can hide all the numbers you want to, but we have a lot of holes here, and we need to make cuts. And I'm willing to do that," Doptis said. "I think we need to start looking at the cuts right now and go from there."

Doptis said the city employs 64 people. Salaries and related compensation account for about $2.2 million.

Doptis suggested two scenarios to cut expenses:

- A layoff of employees with the least seniority.
- A rolling layoff in which employees take turns on furlough.

He called for an employee meeting to discuss the situation.

"Just in nonuniform, if everyone would take one week off, it would save $16,000," Doptis said. "If everyone took five weeks, we would save $83,000."

Doptis said the employees could collect unemployment during the layoffs.

The mayor said council would have to study labor contracts to see if rolling layoffs are permitted.

"I think we're here for budgetary reasons," Gagatko said. "I'm not in a position to vote for a rolling layoff. That would require a whole lot of study before we could do that."

Petaccia suggested looking into layoffs as the 2009 budget is formulated.

He said council soon will negotiate a contract with the police department.

Petaccia said the city will save money this year with the retirement of police Lt. Gary Tretter, whom council does not plan to immediately replace.

"Best thing we can do this year is control our expenses," the mayor said. "I think we need to get our ducks in order first."

Harhai said that when it comes to cuts, the city's greatest asset is its greatest liability – people.

Doptis said the garbage fee collection system should be changed because council is using fees collected in 2007 to help finance the 2008 budget.

"You're robbing Peter to pay Paul and that's a reflection on this council," Doptis said.

Petaccia asked why Doptis waited until after the budget was approved to raise questions and concerns.

"You know what amazes me, though, Wayne, is that when we were sitting there making the budget for 2008, a layoff was never mentioned. None of these things were raised," Petaccia said. "Before I'm going to lay somebody off, I'm going to try every avenue, first."

Petaccia said council should consider across-the-board cuts rather than pinpointing specific line items.

He noted that council increased the fire departments' annual stipend while cutting the contribution to the library last year, and to the civic center over the years.

"I support the fire departments, but we need to be fair if we're making cuts," Petaccia said.

Doptis said a layoff would be a "last-case scenario."

Council will modify the 2008 budget and remove the $4,000 raises. The money will be reassigned to real estate revenue. The revised budget will be advertised and displayed for public review before council can act on it next month.

Valley briefs

Demolition set for arena project

Demolition of the former St. Francis Central Hospital is expected to begin later this week or next week to make way for a new arena for the Pittsburgh Penguins.

The city-county Sports and Exhibition Authority has already razed a dozen buildings to make room on the arena site. The 10-story hospital building is the largest and will make way for a 500-car garage.

Officials say Michigan contractor Homrich Inc. is being paid $868,000 to raze the hospital.

The new $290 million arena will replace Mellon Arena, where the hockey team currently plays.

The Penguins plan to open the new 18,500-seat arena in time for the 2010-11 season.

Stabbing suspect sought by police

Allegheny County police are looking for a Pittsburgh man charged in the fatal stabbing of a 71-year-old man at his home in a nearby suburb.

Police say Foteos Soutemenides is charged with criminal homicide and reckless endangerment for stabbing Richard Revis in his Mount Oliver home on Monday.

Police say the 28-year-old suspect is a transient who had some kind of dispute with Revis before 6:30 a.m. Monday.

Police have not said what led them to charge Soutemenides with the killing.

Pitt's press eyes digital publishing

The University of Pittsburgh Press is experimenting with digital publishing.

The university says it will make about 30 scholarly titles in its Latin American Series available online.

The books all sell for about $25 and those who want the entire book must still purchase a bound version. But the books will be available for free online for those who want to download pages or other portions of the books for reference purposes.

The university press has about 500 scholarly titles in its library.

It may make others available for online viewing depending on the response to the books on Latin America.

Homeless woman found dead

The Allegheny County Medical Examiner is still investigating the cause of death for a homeless woman who was found dead in Pittsburgh's frigid temperatures.

Forty-nine-year-old Stacey Lenzo was found dead by her boyfriend Sunday in a homeless encampment where they lived under the Liberty Bridge.

Results of tests done during an autopsy on Monday are still pending.

Officials at Operation Safety Net are trying to figure out what might have happened to the woman. The group says Lenzo didn't get one of the sleeping bags they passed out at the encampment.

The sleeping bags are insulated for temperatures down to 15 degrees below zero. Sunday's low temperature was about 5 degrees.

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Keith Hodan/For The Valley Independent

Dionne Ford (right), 27, and Tiletha Locker, 12, work on their project for the Diversity Shelves program, as members of the Monessen Family Center's 21st Century Afterschool Program celebrated Martin Luther King Day at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild in Pittsburgh on Monday. Sponsored by the volunteer group Pittsburgh Cares, the program involves 250 volunteers creating bookcases with words and images from the civil rights movement. Twelve-year-old Monet Wade (left), a member of the afterschool group, titled their shelves "Powerful Days."

Rendell ready to push for dog kennel reform

Governor wants to eliminate Pennsylvania's reputation as a "puppy mill" state.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
bbumsted@tribweb.com

HARRISBURG -- Gov. Ed Rendell this week will release a proposal to improve rules governing dog kennels and puppy breeding farms, some of which exist with filthy, cramped conditions due to years of lax inspections.

A dog lover who "rescued" two golden retrievers, Ginger and Maggie, Rendell long has been "acutely aware of our reputation as a puppy mill (state) and felt obliged to do what he could to improve conditions," said his press secretary, Chuck Ardo.

"The main part of the legislation is to set separate standards for commercial breeding kennels," said Jessie Smith, deputy secretary for the Department of Agriculture overseeing dog law enforcement.

The Agriculture Department, an agency under Rendell's control, at a meeting Wednesday will gather input on Rendell's proposal from the Dog Law Advisory Board, which represents interests from kennels to law enforcement. "The department is looking for feedback," said spokesman Chris Ryder.

Last month, the administration proposed sweeping changes in a draft of a new dog law.

It would create a classification for commercial kennels, where dogs are kept for years solely for breeding, ban wire-cage flooring, increase the minimum size of enclosures, make provisions for exercise and limit the stacking of cages.

The new cage size requirements, for example, wouldn't apply to general kennels, Smith said.

A requirement for an exercise plan would apply to general kennels and commercial breeders, Smith said. So would limitations on the slope that can exist for outdoor enclosures.

Rendell spokeswoman Teresa Candori said the administration wants to improve dog law enforcement legislatively, rather than through regulation.

The dog law covers licensing of almost 1 million dogs statewide, about 2,600 kennels, and the handling of strays and dangerous dogs.

As Rendell's staff was working on the plan, the Morning Call in Allentown last year reported that an analysis of 20,000 state inspection records showed kennels and puppy breeding facilities got passing grades for conditions that included feces-filled living areas, cramped cages, dirty water bowls and diseased or dead dogs. The newspaper looked at kennel inspection records from 2003 to 2006.

Bob Klein, who runs Hickory Creek Kennels in Bridgeville, said the average Pennsylvania dog kennel doesn't need new rules. His 20-dog kennel includes heated floors and a ventilation system, Klein said.

He said he is concerned that some kennel owners will be challenged financially to meet some of the requirements.

Others welcomed the new rules.

"A lot of the regulations are good for the dogs," said Phyllis A. Tustin, who owns Crosswinds K-9 in Claysville.

Her business on 12.5 acres features a European-style kennel with individual wood porches, air conditioning and heat, tile floors and classical music.

Cori Menkin, of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said the state is poised to make big improvements.

Valley Grapevine deadline set

Items for Valley Grapevine should be submitted at least five publishing days prior to scheduled meetings or events.

Pilot error cited as likely cause of plane crash

NTSB issues report on Nov. 28 fatal crash at Arnold Palmer Regional Airport.

By PAUL PEIRCE
For The Valley Independent
ppeirce@tribweb.com

An Allegheny County pilot likely lost control of his home-built aircraft before it crashed Nov. 28 while he was practicing runway landings at Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Unity.

Dr. James M. Tobin, a Forest Hills dentist, suffered multiple injuries in the accident.

According to a report released Monday by the National Transportation Safety Board, Tobin was making his third practice landing when his RV-8, single-engine aircraft touched down "and began to veer left and right."

The report said Tobin attempted to correct the problem by applying power and climbing to an altitude of 30 to 50 feet. However, the report said, the plane suddenly rolled and turned left, causing Tobin to overfly the left edge of the runway.

The plane went over a 75-foot embankment, striking the tip of its left wing in a wet area at the base. The report said the accident caused the left main landing gear to separate from the aircraft.

"The airplane then cartwheeled counterclockwise, coming to rest upright on the right main landing gear and forward fuselage," the report said.

Tobin was flown by emergency medical helicopter from the scene of the 2:39 p.m. crash and taken to UPMC Presbyterian in Pittsburgh, where he was treated for multiple injuries.

Investigators noted in the report that about a year before the November crash, Tobin was flying a different RV-8 at the Unity airport and "also experienced a loss of control while practicing landings, during which the airplane veered off the left side of the runway and struck a taxiway light."

An official cause of the accident will be determined at a later date by the NTSB. The released report is known as a factual report.

Tobin could not be reached for comment. Westmoreland Airport Authority officials were unavailable for comment because of the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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DEATH NOTICES

MAPLE — James H. Maple, 74, of Bemus Point, N.Y., on Saturday, Jan. 19. Lind Funeral Home, Jamestown, N.Y.*

SILBAUGH — Ralph Silbaugh, 94, of Fallowfield Township, on Monday, Jan. 21. Schrock-Hogan Funeral Home Inc., Charleroi.*

PREVIOUS DEATHS:
HADJANTONI, Catherine*
HARTUNG, Betty*
HEATH, William R.*
PEROZZI, Delio "Day Day"*

*** See death notice**

Catherine Hadjantoni
Charleroi

Catherine Hadjantoni, 77, of Charleroi, died Friday, Jan. 18, 2008, in Mon Valley Hospital. She was born Nov. 13, 1930, in Beaver Falls, a daughter of the late Christ and Ypatia Kalamaras Hadjantoni. She was a member of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in Monessen. Catherine was a 1948 graduate of Charleroi High School and, prior to retirement, was employed by the former American Finance Co. in Charleroi for 20 years. She enjoyed baking, cooking and gardening. Surviving is one brother, Michael Hadjantoni, of Detroit, Mich.; two sisters, Mary Kontaxes, of Perryopolis, and Joan Hasten, of the state of California; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, George Hadjantoni. Friends will be received in the CARL J. SPALLINO FUNERAL HOME, 819 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, on Tuesday from 3 to 8 p.m. Additional visitation will be held Wednesday, Jan. 23, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., the hour of services in St. Spyridon Church with the Rev. Demetrios Gardikes officiating. Interment will follow in Grandview Cemetery, Monessen. A Trisagion service will be held in the funeral home on Tuesday at 4 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Betty Hartung
Bethel Park
Formerly of Monessen

Betty Hartung, 70, of Bethel Park, formerly of Monessen, died Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008, in UPMC Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh. She was born Oct. 31, 1937, in Charleroi, a daughter of the late Michael Skurla and Mary Yakim Bricker. She was an employee of Mon Valley Hospital as a licensed practical nurse prior to her retirement. Ms. Hartung was a member of the Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church and the "Class of 1957 Lunch Ladies Group". Surviving are two daughters, Andrea (Brian) Tomich, of Bethel Park, and Cynthia (Tim) Eichler, of Jefferson Hills; one son, George P. (Vickie) Hartung, of Monessen; six grandchildren, Lauren and Desiree Tomich, Matthew and Brandon Eichler, and Ashley and Mary Hartung; and one sister, Julie Shutterly, of Belle Vernon. Friends will be received at the RHOME FUNERAL HOME INC., 1209 Grand Blvd., Monessen, a Golden Rule Funeral Home, from 1 to 3 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday. A Blessing Services will be held in the funeral home at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, followed by 10 a.m. Funeral Services in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Monessen. Interment will follow in Greenridge Memorial.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

William R. Heath
North Belle Vernon

William R. Heath, 91, of North Belle Vernon, died Friday, Jan. 18, 2008, in Mon Valley Hospital. A son of the late Pauline Schmidt, he was born in North Belle Vernon on Dec. 7, 1916. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, the American Legion Post 659, the Charleroi VFW and the Belle Vernon and Fayette City Golden Agers. Bill and his wife enjoyed playing cards at the Center on the Hill. He loved bowling, square dancing and camping at Hillegrass Campground. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, he retired in 1982 from the Allenport plant of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Company. After retirement, he and his wife wintered in Ft. Myers Beach, Fla. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Althea Pocky Heath; one daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and John Zunic, and one brother, Fred Schmidt, all of Belle Vernon; one sister, Margaret Louis, of Fairless Hills; three grandchildren, Kimberly Zunic, John William Zunic and his friend, Jennifer Mohn, and Eric Zunic; and one great-grandson, Bradley Heath Orr. Friends will be received from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday and 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the FERGUSON FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY INC., 700 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon, (724-929-5300), www.fergusonfuneralhome-andcrematory.com. Funeral services will be in the First Presbyterian Church on Thursday, Jan. 24, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Suzanne Currie officiating. Entombment will follow in Belle Vernon Cemetery. The officers, deacons and elders of the First Presbyterian Church will meet in the funeral home to hold services on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

James H. Maple
Bemus Point, N.Y.

James H. Maple, 74, of Bemus Point, N.Y., died at 5:02 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008, in WCA Hospital of Jamestown, N.Y. A native of California, Pa., he was born May 7, 1933, in Pittsburgh, a son of the late Thomas Maple and Blanche Adamson Maple Williams. He was a 1951 graduate of California Community High School and attended Purdue University from 1951-1954, until he was drafted into the Army, serving from 1954-1955. He received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from California State Teachers College, a master's degree in mathematics from Bowling Green University and continued his education taking graduate courses in computer science at Penn State University. He also did graduate work at Kent State University and the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to moving to Bemus Point in 1996, he worked as a math teacher in Lorain, Ohio, Norwalk, Conn., and Euclid, Ohio, before being hired by Indiana State Teachers College, now Indiana University of Pennsylvania, in 1964. He was a faculty member of the mathematics department until 1971, when he co-founded the computer science department; he remained there until his retirement in 1994. He was a member of Ingjald Lodge 65 IOV, AMVETS, and Lakewood Rod and Gun Club. He enjoyed woodworking, bird watching, time spent volunteering at the Chautauqua County Humane Society, and spending time with his family and friends. Surviving are his wife, the former Nancy Underwood, whom he married Jan. 31, 1959; a daughter, Kathy Maple, of Indiana, Pa.; a son, James E. Maple and wife, Irene, of Purcellville, Va.; two grandsons, James A. Maple, serving in the Air Force, and Justin Maple, of Indiana, Pa.; two brothers, Robert Williams, of Schenectady, N.Y., and Lewis Williams, of Barnesville; a sister, Marion Kozlowski, of Orlando, Fla.; and numerous nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, a brother, Thomas Maple, preceded him in death. A memorial service will be held in the spring at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, in Indiana, at a date and time to be announced. Arrangements by LIND FUNERAL HOME, Jamestown, N.Y. Memorials may be made to James H. Maple Scholarship Fund, c/o Foundation for IUP, 305 Sutton Hall, 1011 South Drive, Indiana, PA 15701.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Delio Perozzi
Monessen

Delio "Day-Day" Perozzi, 82, of Monessen, passed away Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008, in Jefferson Regional Medical Center following a brief illness. He was born Nov. 13, 1925, the son of the late Luigi and Annita Mignini Perozzi. He was a 1944 graduate of Monessen High School and a veteran of World War II, having been drafted into the Navy from high school. He served from 1944 to 1946 aboard the destroyer tender USS San Pablo. Prior to his retirement, he was a partner in a soda pop distribution business, an employee of 34 years at Cherocci's Service Station in Monessen, where he became part owner for several years, and he retired after 11 years of service with Power Piping Company in Donora, where he was a member of Local 354 Plumbers & Pipefitters Union. Day-Day was an active member of the community. He was involved in sports, having played softball, basketball, golf, and bowling, and he was an avid Steelers fan and Monessen Greyhounds fan, being a season ticket holder for over 50 years. He was a member of Epiphany of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church in Monessen, where he was active in the Holy Name Society and sang in the church choir. He was a member and officer of Knights of Columbus Council 954, the Monessen Investment Club since its inception, the Monessen Elks and Power Piping golf leagues, and the Epiphany Men's Bowling League. He also was an active member of the former Monessen Sokol Club, Italian Society of Mutual Aid, Monessen Elks 773, Monessen Ravens Club, American Legion Post 28, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1190, Westmoreland Columbus 500, Mid-Mon Valley Shipmates and the Monessen Senior Center. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Helene Susko Perozzi, of Monessen; two sons and daughters-in-law, Daniel and Loretta Perozzi, of Baltimore, Md., James and Kathi Perozzi, of Monessen; a daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and David Gilotty, of Fallowfield Township; a sister and brother, Lucy Capacasa and John Perozzi, both of Monessen; four grandchildren, Jamie, Christopher, Kristin and Jonathan Perozzi; one great-grandson, Dominic Perozzi; and several nieces and nephews. Friends will be received Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the DALFONSO-BILLICK FUNERAL HOME INC. and CREMATION SERVICES, 441 Reed Ave., Monessen (724-684-8750). Services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 23, beginning with a 9:30 a.m. Blessing in the funeral home, followed by a 10 a.m. Funeral Mass in Epiphany of Our Lord R.C. Church. Interment will follow in St. Hyacinth Cemetery, Monessen. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Mon Valley Relay for Life through the funeral home. Condolences accepted for the family at www.dalfonso-billick.com. VFW Post 1190 and American Legion Post 28 will conduct a joint service at 7:15 p.m. Monday, followed by the Mid-Mon Valley Shipmates' Two-bell service at 8 p.m. On Tuesday, Knights of Columbus Council 954 and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court 776 will conduct a joint prayer service at 8 p.m.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Ralph Silbaugh
Fallowfield Township

Ralph Silbaugh, 94, of Fallowfield Township, died Monday, Jan. 21, 2008, in the Mount Vernon Assisted Living Residence, Elizabeth. He was born Feb. 13, 1913, in Gibson, a son of the late Charles and Eleanor Umbel Silbaugh. He was a 50-year member of the Fallowfield Township Grange, a charter member of the Junior Mechanics, a member of the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Allenport Plant Retirees, a member and former trustee of SOAR, and a member of AARP. Mr. Silbaugh was a former employee at the Hillman Coal Co. from 1926 to 1941. He was a substitute rural mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service and was retired from Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Co., Allenport plant, where he worked from 1941 to 1976. Mr. Silbaugh is survived by two daughters and one son-in-law, Linda and Bob Hodgson, and Karen Kon; one son, Vernon (Susan) Silbaugh; six grandchildren, Terri (Ron) Weber, Dana (Kevin) Auld, Jeff (Yvone) Kon, Andrew Silbaugh, Amy (Terry) Ventorini and Christina (Gino) Cristaldi; eight great-grandchildren; one sister, Gertrude Silbaugh; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Mr. Silbaugh was preceded in death by his wife, Belva Sharpnack Silbaugh; two brothers, Springer and John Silbaugh; and four sisters, Mae Workman, Mary Wilburn, and Hazel and Margaret Silbaugh. Friends will be received Wednesday from 1 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the SCHROCK-HOGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES INC., (www.schrock-hogan.com), 226 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi. Funeral services will be announced in Wednesday's edition. The family has requested memorial contributions be made to the American Heart Association in memory of Mr. Silbaugh.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

POLICE LOG

Monessen

■ Tiffany Grogan, 25, of Monessen, was picked up on active bench warrants 12:42 a.m. Monday inside Billy T's Bar, Ninth Street and Knox Avenue, police said. She was taken to the Westmoreland County Jail.

■ Joshua Van Hooser, 25, of 501 South 14th St., Monessen, was charged with violation of a PFA and harassment, police said. He was not at the location when police arrived and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

State police Greensburg

■ Police are investigating a burglary and theft reported at Superior Motors Inc. in Sutersville. Officials from the business reported that sometime during the hours of 7:30 p.m. Jan. 14 and 7:30 a.m. Jan. 15, someone entered the business and removed several automotive keys from inside. A vehicle was then stolen from the lot using the keys. Police did not say what kind of vehicle was stolen or if it was recovered. The investigation is continuing.

Southwest Regional

■ Dagny Valdiserri, 44, and Ann Lynn, 23, both of 600 Blind Lane, Belle Vernon, were charged with aggravated assault, simple assault and public drunkenness as a result of an incident that took place Monday at their home, police said.

California

■ Fausie Williams, 46, of Mill Run, was charged with harassment after an incident that occurred Nov. 28 on School Street, police said.

■ Steven Michael Martin, 32, of California, was cited for disorderly conduct afer an incident that occurred 2:25 a.m. Saturday on Union Street, police said.

■ Jason Allen Dinardo, 19, of Charleroi, was cited for underage drinking 12:33 a.m. Saturday on Strawberry Way, police said.

■ Christopher John Catlin, 23, of Meadville, was cited for simple trespass after a incident 2 a.m. Saturday when he allegedly refused to leave J Coles Tavern, police said.

■ Justin Regis Kerestes, 26, of Pittsburgh, was cited for violating the borough's open container ordinance 10:32 p.m. Friday at Jefferson Apartments, police said.

■ Joseph Curtis Hyde, 20, of Pittsburgh, was cited for public drunkenness and underage drinking 1:20 a.m. Friday, police said.

■ Kelly N. Sambroak, 20, and Lisa M. Steigerwald, 20, both of Pittsburgh, were both cited for using false identification to purchase alcohol, when they allegedly attempted to gain entry to J Coles Tavern 1 a.m. Friday, police said.

■ Brian Michael Warholak, 20, of Bethel Park, was cited 2:20 a.m. Jan. 12 for public drunkenness, underage drinking and violating the borough's open container ordinance at Jefferson Apartments, police said.

■ Paul J. Semi, 18, of Delmont, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a small amount of marijuana 3:04 a.m. Friday on Fifth Street, police said.

'No Country,' 'Blood' lead Oscar nominations

Crime saga and historic epic each received 8 nominations.

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — "No Country for Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood" led with eight Academy Awards nominations each today, among them best picture and acting honors for Daniel Day-Lewis and Javier Bardem – but whether any actors would show up was in doubt because of the writers strike.

"No Country for Old Men," a crime saga about a drug deal gone bad, "There Will Be Blood," and a historical epic set in California's oil boom years will compete for best picture against the melancholy romance "Atonement," the pregnancy comedy "Juno" and the legal drama "Michael Clayton."

"Atonement" and "Michael Clayton" trailed with seven nominations each, including best actor for George Clooney in the title role of "Clayton." The lead players in "Atonement," Keira Knightley and James McAvoy, were shut out on nominations, however, with teenager Saoirse Ronin the only performer nominated for that film, for supporting actress.

Past Oscar winner Cate Blanchett had two nominations as best actress for the historical pageant "Elizabeth: The Golden Age," and the Bob Dylan tale "I'm Not There."

The acting categories generally played out as expected — with a few surprises, including best actress nominee Laura Linney for "The Savages" and best-actor nominee Tommy Lee Jones for "In the Valley of Elah."

Best actress looks like a two-person duel between Julie Christie, an Oscar winner for "Darling," as a woman succumbing to Alzheimer's in "Away From Her" and Marion Cotillard as singer Edith Piaf in "La Vie En Rose." Both won Golden Globes, Christie for dramatic actress, Cotillard for musical or comedy actress. Yet they face strong competition from Blanchett, Linney and relative newcomer Ellen Page as a whip-smart pregnant teen in "Juno."

Day-Lewis, an Oscar winner for "My Left Foot," grabbed another best-actor nomination as a flamboyant oil baron in "There Will Be Blood," for which he could emerge as the favorite.

Along with Day-Lewis, Clooney and Jones, the other nominees were Johnny Depp, who won the Globe for musical or comedy actor as the vengeful barber in "Sweeney Todd," Viggo Mortensen as a Russian mob member in "Eastern Promises."

Bardem is up against Casey Affleck, "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford"; Philip Seymour Hoffman, "Charlie Wilson's War"; Hal Holbrook, "Into the Wild"; Tom Wilkinson, "Michael Clayton."

Joining Blanchett and Ronin in the supporting actress category were Ruby Dee for "American Gangster," Amy Ryan for "Gone Baby Gone" and Tilda Swinton for "Michael Clayton."

Valley Grapevine deadline set

Items for Valley Grapevine should be submitted at least five publishing days prior to scheduled meetings or events.

TODAY IN HISTORY

January 22

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 22, the 22nd day of 2008. There are 344 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight

On Jan. 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its Roe v. Wade decision, legalized abortions using a trimester approach.

On this date:

■ In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 81.

■ In 1908, Katie Mulcahey became the first woman to run afoul of New York City's just-passed ban on females smoking in public. (Declaring, "No man shall dictate to me," Mulcahey served a night in jail after being unable to pay a $5 fine.)

■ In 1917, President Woodrow Wilson pleaded for an end to war in Europe, calling for "peace without victory." (By April, however, America also was at war.)

■ In 1922, Pope Benedict XV died; he was succeeded by Pius XI.

■ In 1938, Thornton Wilder's play "Our Town" was performed publicly for the first time, in Princeton, N.J.

■ In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces began landing at Anzio, Italy.

■ In 1968, the fast-paced sketch comedy series "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In" premiered on NBC-TV.

■ In 1973, former President Lyndon Johnson died at age 64.

■ In 1995, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy died at the Kennedy compound at Hyannis Port, Mass., at age 104.

■ **Ten years ago**: Theodore Kaczynski pleaded guilty in Sacramento, Calif., to being the Unabomber in return for a sentence of life in prison without parole. On the first full day of his visit to Cuba, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass, preaching the message, "Be not afraid."

■ **Five years ago**: Countering blunt talk of war by the Bush administration, France and Germany defiantly stated they were committed to a peaceful solution to the Iraq crisis. Opponents and supporters of abortion rights rallied on the 30th anniversary of the Supreme Court's "Roe versus Wade" ruling. Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Bill Mauldin, who had immortalized World War II soldiers with his characters Willie and Joe, died in Newport Beach, Calif., at age 81.

■ **One year ago:** A car bombing of a predominantly Shiite commercial area in Baghdad killed 88 people. Iran announced it had barred 38 nuclear inspectors on a United Nations list from entering the country in apparent retaliation for U.N. sanctions imposed the previous month.

■ **Today's Birthdays**: Former Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., is 80. Actress Piper Laurie is 76. Actor Seymour Cassel is 73. Author Joseph Wambaugh is 71. Actor John Hurt is 68. Singer Steve Perry is 59. Country singer-musician Teddy Gentry (Alabama) is 56. Movie director Jim Jarmusch is 55. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Mike Bossy is 51. Actress Linda Blair is 49. Actress Diane Lane is 43. Actor-rap DJ Jazzy Jeff is 43. Country singer Regina Nicks (Regina Regina) is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marc Gay (Shai) is 39. Actor Gabriel Macht is 36. Actor Balthazar Getty is 33. Actor Christopher Kennedy Masterson is 28. Pop singer Willa Ford is 27. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kelton Kessee (IMX) is 27. Actress Beverley (cq) Mitchell is 27. Rock singer-musician Ben Moody is 27.

Proposals sought for sagging U.S. economy

Bush expected to meet with congressional leaders today.

By ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush and top congressional leaders are looking for quick agreement on how to pump as much as $150 billion in tax cuts and government spending into the ailing economy to head off a recession.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and leaders in both parties are scheduled to meet with Bush on Tuesday to discuss a stimulus bill providing tax rebates, business tax cuts and funding for a Democratic-led call for additional food stamp and employment aid.

Both sides already have displayed flexibility not witnessed last year in battles over spending, taxes and children's health insurance. Lawmakers appearing on weekend televisions talk shows promised bipartisanship.

"There's a real spirit of compromise in Washington right now, a spirit of, 'Let's get together, put away the bipartisan differences, because the economy is in poor shape,'" Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said on "Fox News Sunday." "There are many Democrats, frankly, who would rather not have business tax cuts. But again, no one's drawing a line in the sand."

Bush on Friday called for an economic growth package of about $145 billion, centered on tax cuts for business and rebates for individual taxpayers. He did not announce details, but administration officials are focusing on rebates of $800 to $1,600 for individuals and couples and so-called bonus depreciation to allow companies to deduct 50 percent of business investments made this year. He also supports help for small businesses with more generous write-offs on equipment purchases.

Democrats want the rebates to reach millions of lower-income families who pay only Social Security and Medicare taxes or who may not file income tax returns at all.

On Capitol Hill, talks between Pelosi and House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, have focused on smaller tax rebates of perhaps $500 for individuals, bonus depreciation and small business expensing, as well as Democrats' call for boosts in unemployment benefits, food stamp payments and the Medicaid health care program for the poor and disabled.

It's a rare display of bipartisanship that was not taken as a given when Washington buzz about a possible stimulus measure reached a tipping point two weeks ago.

Then, the White House adopted a cautious stance, saying that Bush hadn't decided whether the economy was sour enough to require a fiscal jolt. Aides to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., initially fretted that any stimulus plan might get loaded up with a lot of unrelated junk and that GOP partisans would force politically difficult votes as the measure moved through that chamber.

Associated Press

A South Korean woman uses her mobile phone next to an electronic stock price graph today at the Korea Stock Exchange Market in Seoul, South Korea, where shares fell sharply amid worries in global financial markets about weakness in the U.S. economy.

Recession concerns persist

Asian markets extend losses; Nikkei tumbles 5.7 percent.

TOKYO (AP) — Global stock markets extended their shakeout into a second day Tuesday, plunging amid fears that a possible U.S. recession will cause a worldwide economic slowdown.

The dramatic declines in Asia and Europe were expected to spread to Wall Street, where stock index futures were already down sharply hours before the trading day began.

Japan's Nikkei 225 index nose-dived 5.7 percent — its biggest percentage drop in nearly 10 years — to 12,573.05, a day after falling 3.9 percent. Australia's benchmark index sank 7.1 percent, its steepest slide in nearly 20 years. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index, which slumped 5.5 percent Monday, was down 8.2 percent in afternoon trading.

In China, the Shanghai Composite index lost 7.2 percent to close at its lowest level since August.

Indian Finance Minister P. Chidambaram urged investors to remain calm after trading in Mumbai was halted for an hour when the stock market there fell 10 percent within minutes of opening. In volatile afternoon trading, the Sensex was down 6.2 percent.

"There is no reason at all to allow the worries of the Western world to overwhelm us," Chidambaram said.

Investors across the region dumped shares in frenetic trading on worries that the U.S. economy, battered by a credit crisis and housing slump, will shrink in coming months, weakening demand for Asian exports.

Markets have been plunging amid pessimism

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

One player hits 'Cash 5' jackpot

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — One player matched all five winning numbers drawn in Monday's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" game and will collect a jackpot worth $100,000.

Lottery officials said 144 players matched four numbers and won $195.50 each; 3,982 players matched three numbers and won $7.50 each; and 38,540 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

THE WORLD BRIEFLY

Bomber attacks outside school

BAGHDAD (AP) — A suicide bomber blew himself up in front of a high school north of Baghdad today, wounding 22 people including teachers and students arriving for the beginning of the school day.

Bystanders and at least one police officer were also wounded in the 8:30 a.m. bombing, according to a policeman who spoke on condition of anonymity because he feared reprisals.

The target of the latest bombing was unclear: The school is next to the provincial governor's office and a municipal building in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Baqouba is the turbulent capital of Diyala province, which has defied a nationwide trend toward lower violence over the past six months. Al-Qaida in Iraq fighters fled to Diyala after Sunni insurgents and clans members joined with American troops to oust them from much of Baghdad and Anbar province to the west.

Clinton, Obama accuse each other

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. (AP) — Democratic presidential rivals Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama accused each other of repeatedly and deliberately distorting the truth for political gain Monday night in a highly personal, finger-wagging debate that ranged from the war in Iraq to Bill Clinton's role in the campaign.

Obama told the former first lady he was helping unemployed workers on the streets of Chicago when "you were a corporate lawyer sitting on the board at Wal-Mart."

Moments later, Clinton said that she was fighting against misguided Republican policies "when you were practicing law and representing your contributor ... in his slum landlord business in inner city Chicago."

Obama seemed particularly irritated at the former president, whom he accused in absentia of uttering a series of distortions to aid his wife's presidential effort.

"I'm here. He's not," she snapped.

"Well, I can't tell who I'm running against sometimes," Obama countered.

The two rivals, joined by former Sen. John Edwards, debated at close quarters five days before the South Carolina primary — and 15 days before the equivalent of a nationwide primary across 20 states that will go a long way toward settling the battle for the party's nomination.

Israel eases chokehold on Gaza

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israel eased a blockade of Gaza imposed in retaliation for militant rocket attacks, allowing in some food and fuel today after the U.N. warned that international food aid to the impoverished territory may have to be suspended by the weekend.

Israel pumped cooking oil and fuel for Gaza's power plant through the Nahal Oz crossing. It was also expected to allow a single shipment of fuel, food and medicine into Gaza through the Kerem Shalom crossing.

The closure imposed after a spike in rocket attacks last week cut off fuel supplies. On Sunday, Gaza's Hamas rulers shut the strip's power plant, leaving one-third of the 1.5 million people without electricity. Gas stations and many bakeries closed, and health officials warned of an impending crisis in hospitals running low on generator fuel.

The cutoff of fuel prompted condemnation from aid and human rights groups. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak on Monday and urged him to ease restrictions.

Before agreeing to today's one-time shipment, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert strongly defended the blockade.

He told legislators from his Kadima Party he will not allow a humanitarian crisis to develop. But he said Gaza's residents won't be able to live a "pleasant and comfortable life" as long as southern Israel is under rocket attack.

Read The Valley Independent
online at
www.valleyindependent.com

Wouldn't You Love Increased Business?

February is certainly a magical month– spring is on the way and love is in the air, which means a gift of dazzling profits for your business. But there's more to this month than Valentine's Day, and our timely features tap into a number of ways to connect with more potential customers.

Here are some of February's other highlights:

Belle Vernon/Rostraver Community Directory
Mon Valley Regional Chamber Tab
Greater Rostraver Chamber Tab
Donora Community Directory
Monessen Chamber Tab
Valentines Day
Spring Bridal
Young Voices
Jubilation

If increased sales get your pulse racing, make sure your advertising plan includes an ad among one of these popular topics.

Call today to reserve your ad space.
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724-684-2606

The Valley Independent LOTTERY RESULTS

PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS

MONDAY, JAN. 21

DAY PICK 3:	6-6-9
NIGHT PICK 3:	8-5-5
DAY PICK BIG 4:	7-7-8-5
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	2-6-9-6
TREASURE HUNT:	2-11-13-18-24
MIX & MATCH:	4-1-19-17-2
CASH 5:	3-9-21-24-27

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS

MONDAY, JAN. 21

DAY PICK 3:	6-3-2
NIGHT PICK 3:	0-0-3
DAY PICK 4:	0-9-0-0
NIGHT PICK 4:	4-2-1-9
ROLLING CASH 5:	10-11-18-29-38

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS

MONDAY, JAN. 21

DAILY 3:	3-9-3
DAILY 4:	3-8-9-8
CASH 25:	2-6-11-16-18-19

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

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OUR OPINION

Valley will miss Literacy Council

LITERACY, ACCORDING to Webster, is "the quality or state of being literate — the ability to read and write."

So the fact that the Mid-Mon Valley Literacy Council no longer exists means:

A - The organization was so successful during its 25-year history that everybody in the Valley knows how to read and write, or

B - Council officials became frustrated attempting to push the local literacy barge against the flow of illiteracy.

While we wish the correct answer is A, we fear — and officials of the new-defunct council that did so much good during its existence admit — that the correct answer really is B.

"A couple of years ago, people wanted me to close the council, but I held out hope that things would pick up," said Dorothy Vogel, who held the title of president of the council from 1999-2007.

"But I guess people just weren't interested any more. So, in December, we decided to close it."

Vogel said shutting down the literacy council a tough decision for her because she is certain there is still a huge need for the service locally.

"I know a lot of people can't read, but I guess most of them are too ashamed to admit it and ask for help," she said.

The council had many success stories over the years. More than a few of its former students went on to get successful jobs after completing their studies.

At one time, the council had 40 tutors and as many students in its program. Plus, there was a waiting list of people waiting to be taught.

However, in recent years, the interest in both those wanting to tutor and wanting to learn to read and write cut into the council.

By the time the council's final months dwindled down in 2007, the council had just two active tutors and two active students.

So, reluctantly, the organization that got its start in Monessen in 1984 under the leadership of Yvonne Grandy and S. Fred Natale of the Monessen Library and District Center is no more.

Vogel, Grandy, Natale and everybody else affiliated with the organization over the years deserves a proverbial tip of the hat for a job well done.

It's just too bad the people who most could use what the council had to offer didn't take advantage of it when they had the opportunity to do so.

Do you agree? Do you disagree? The Valley Independent wants to hear from you. E-mail us at valleyletters@tribweb. com or write a letter to the editor. Include your phone number to allow for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words. We reserve the right to edit.

YOUR OPINION

Recycle your newspapers

To the Editor:

Just a reminder to the residents of Washington Township, behind the municipal building there is a red trailer to recycle your newspapers.

It's there all the time, just open the doors and put your papers in it. Remember, it's a red, unmarked trailer.

Barbara Trenk
Belle Vernon

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valleyletters@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.)

While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Will Democrats ever admit progress in Iraq?

Morton **KONDRACKE**

It was simply ridiculous for Democrats to fight about race, but it's more serious that they won't disagree about Iraq.

None of the Democratic presidential candidates — or Congressional leaders — will acknowledge that the troop surge in Iraq creates the possibility that the United States could actually win the conflict and that their calls for hasty troop withdrawals may be misguided.

As Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Joe Lieberman, ID-Conn., observed last week on the first anniversary of President Bush's surge announcement, if opponents of the surge had had their way, "Iraq today would be a country in chaos: A failed state in the heart of the Middle East, overrun by Al Qaeda and Iran."

On the campaign trail, McCain added: "Al Qaeda would be proclaiming that it had defeated the United States in Iraq." He's right. A year ago, a civil war was raging and the United States clearly was losing. Now, it has a chance to succeed, a turnabout with profound strategic implications.

For sure, the surge is working militarily — U.S. deaths are down 80 percent; civilian deaths, 75 percent; car bombs and suicide attacks, 60 percent. Al Qaeda terrorists are on the run. Iraqi security forces have expanded by 100,000 and are now in charge of half of Iraq's provinces.

Politically, there is progress, too, especially at the provincial level. Former Sunni insurgents are cooperating with the United States, and Sunni politicians may rejoin the national government. Shiite militants have declared a ceasefire.

The civil war has largely stopped. No national oil revenue law has been passed, but oil revenues are being shared. And Iraq's parliament has passed a law allowing former Baath Party members to collect pensions and serve in the government.

It's not victory. Political progress is slow. But Iraq is heading in the right direction. U.S. forces might have to stay for 10 years more — but, eventually, as peacekeepers, not combatants, as in Korea and Kosovo. Instead of suffering a huge strategic loss, the United States would have shown it has tenacity, altering its image in the world.

Democrats, however, insist on minimizing the success and advocating early timetables for full withdrawal of U.S. combat forces.

The Democratic line now is that it was to be expected that adding American troops would have a military impact — not that they argued that a year ago — but that political progress won't occur until the United States announces definitively that it's leaving.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., is sticking by her offensive comment last September that she would have to "suspend disbelief" to accept Gen. David Petraeus' assessment that progress was being made.

And Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., maintains that the Democratic Congressional victory of 2006 — and the prospect of U.S. withdrawals — was responsible for the Sunni awakening, when in fact it started earlier. In a conference call last weekend, Obama foreign policy adviser Susan Rice could cite no evidence to back up his assertion.

Certainly, the Iraq war remains unpopular, especially among Democrats. It may be too much to expect that their presidential candidates would completely recast their positions now. But at least they ought to acknowledge reality and express hope for success.

Suppose that, by November, Iraq is basically quiet and is making clear political progress. The Democrats' persistent naysaying could well be a political liability. And, if a Democrat gets elected, will he or she actually throw victory away to fulfill a campaign promise?

Meantime, Clinton and Obama thankfully may have restored a truce in a racial tempest that was utterly baseless in the beginning — but has had political consequences.

It's unthinkable that Clinton, with her personal history and record, would have intended to demean Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in making the historically accurate statement that it took President Lyndon Johnson to get the 1964 Civil Rights Act passed.

Also, it was not Obama, but neutral Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., who started blowing her comment into a firestorm. And other veterans of the 1960s civil rights era kept it going, with Clinton backer Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., declaring that Obama is "no Martin Luther King" and Al Sharpton complaining that Obama is running a "race-neutral campaign."

That's exactly what he's been doing — partly because African-Americans make up less than 15 percent of the voting-age population.

Obama is running as a beneficiary of the civil rights era — the fulfillment of King's dream of a person judged on the basis of his character, not his color.

He's like Tony Dungy and Lovie Smith, the two 2007 Super Bowl coaches; Tiger Woods and Secretaries of State Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice — blacks who have risen to the top on merit. If Obama wins the presidency, it will be a capstone to King's legacy — and LBJ's.

If anyone's been playing "identity politics," it's Clinton — clearly running as a female and trying to rally those of her gender. This makes political sense, too, since women accounted for 54 percent of all voters in 2004.

Clinton didn't succeed in carrying female voters in the Iowa caucuses, but she did in New Hampshire, partly by mailing out false charges that Obama was weak on abortion rights.

Perhaps she is the victim of poetic justice now. Even though implications that she's racially insensitive are false, African-Americans voted 70 percent to 30 percent against her in Tuesday's Michigan primary. Clinton led Obama among blacks nationally all during 2007 but now trails by 25 points. And blacks likely will give Obama a big victory in South Carolina.

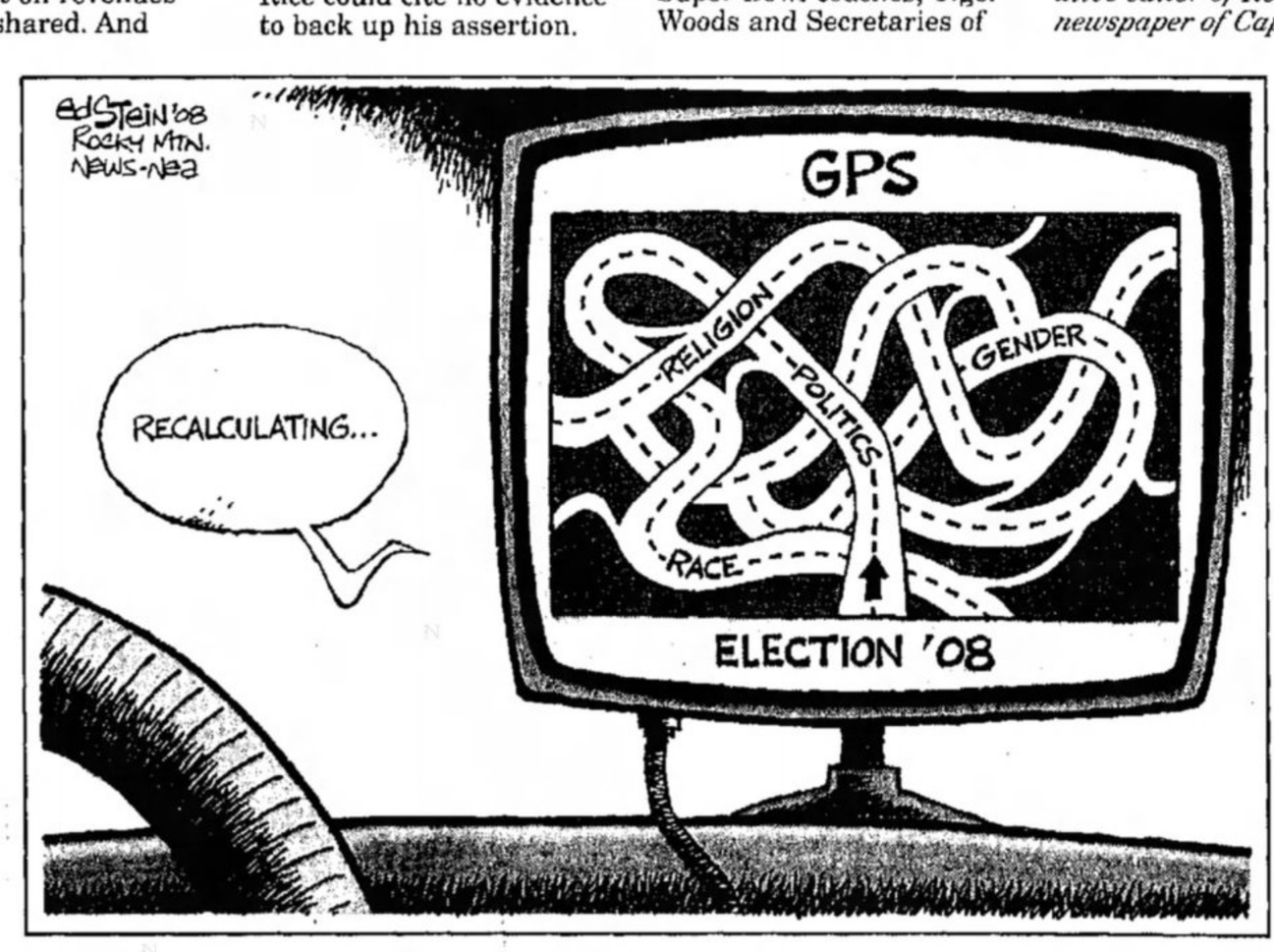
If Clinton and Obama ended racial quarrels in the MSNBC debate on Tuesday, they will continue battling over who's fittest to lead.

What would impress me — and other independent voters — is if one of them would say: "I was wrong. The surge has produced positive results. And, if they continue through this year, when I am elected I will take Gen. Petraeus' advice about our troop deployments.

"I want to withdraw as many troops as possible, as fast as possible. But, while I think President Bush was wrong to go to war, if the United States can win in Iraq, I want to make that happen."

Don't hold your breath.

Morton Kondracke is executive editor of Roll Call, the newspaper of Capitol Hill.



The rich aren't getting richer

ANOTHER VIEW

The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

That's been repeated so many times that a lot of people may assume it's true.

But it isn't.

The Wall Street Journal, citing recent Treasury Department research, says the precise opposite.

The study compared tax returns of people over age 25 from 1996 to 2005.

Among its findings:

■ The income of a very poor person, who works full time, increased 90 percent over the decade, whereas the income of a wealthy person went up just 10 percent.

■ Only one group did not fare well — the richest 1 percent. Overall, they lost 25 percent of their income.

■ Nearly 60 percent of the richest Americans dropped into lower income groups, replaced by those who previously were below them.

In other words, people start in low-income brackets and, unless they choose the wrong profession, move up the economic ladder as they improve their career skills.

Those on top sometimes become complacent, or maybe make bad decisions, and slip a rung or two.

One more thought:

"The after-inflation median income of all tax filers increased by an impressive 24 percent," the article said.

Generally speaking, everyone is getting richer. But the poor are doing it more rapidly than the affluent.

America truly is the land of opportunity.

— The (Jacksonville) Florida Times-Union

MVH offers partial knee replacement

A recently FDA-approved, new procedure in knee replacement surgery, the Oxford Unicompartmental Partial Knee Replacement System, is an alternative for some patients who may have required total knee replacement surgery.

Dr. Thomas F. Brockmeyer and Dr. Scott L. Baron, orthopedic surgeons with The Orthopedic Group, PC, perform the surgery at Monongahela Valley Hospital.

The orthopedic surgeons completed training required by the FDA before using the partial knee replacement system in surgery. In the United States there only are approximately 2,100 orthopedic surgeons who can perform this surgery.

The Oxford Uni Partial Knee Replacement is a procedure intended for patients with limited knee arthritis and who have failed conservative therapy. Depending on the health of the knee, a patient who would have had a total knee replacement may be a candidate for partial knee replacement surgery.

Unlike total knee replacement involving removal of all the knee joint surfaces, a unicompartmental knee replacement replaces only one side of the knee joint.

Knee osteoarthritis usually occurs first in the medial (inside) compartment, as this side of the knee bears most of the weight.

If the procedure is performed early in the disease process, the operation can slow the progress of arthritis in the other compartments of the joint and provide long term relief of symptoms.

Leading surgeons in Oxford, England, along with engineers at Biomet, developed the only FDA approved free-floating meniscal partial knee system available in the United States. It has been utilized throughout Europe for more than two decades.

The Oxford Uni Partial Knee is the first partial implant with an artificial meniscal-bearing insert, designed to glide freely throughout the knee's range of motion to more closely replicate normal knee mechanics. In a healthy knee, the meniscus (cartilage) serves as a shock absorber between the ends of the bones.

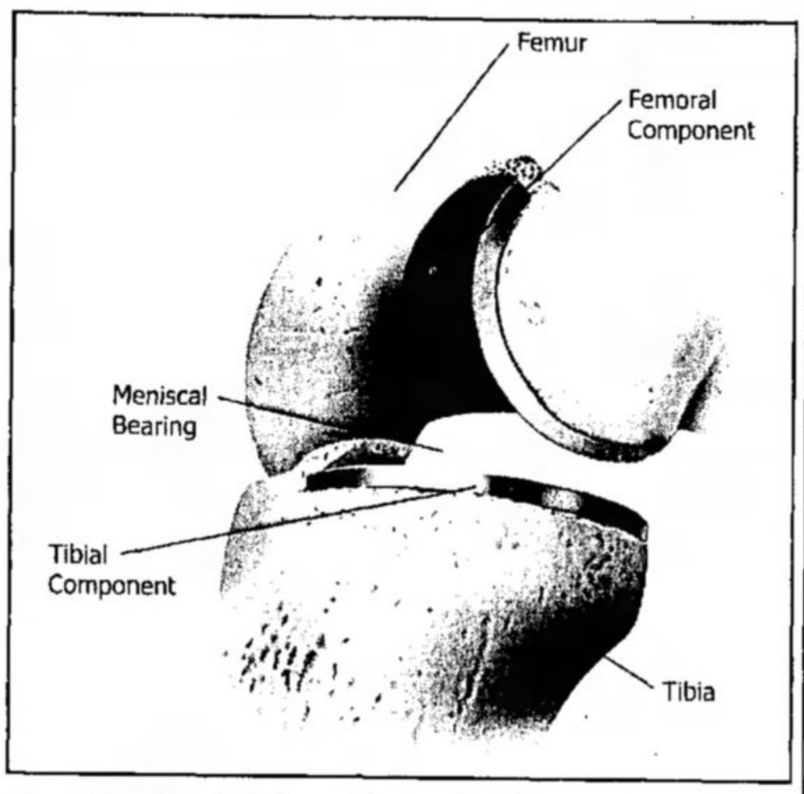
"The Oxford Uni Partial Knee provides the patient with a more natural feeling and if it is properly implanted, the patient could have 15-20 years of good quality function," Brockmeyer said. "Wear and tear of this specially designed cobalt chromium molybdemum alloy is relatively low. The free floating nature of the device also improves durability of the implant."

Utilizing minimally invasive surgical technique, healthy parts of the knee are not surgically exposed. Brockmeyer said, "The procedure removes only the damaged cartilage and preserves more tissue. Therefore, if a future total knee is required down the road, it can be more easily performed."

The minimal incision allows a more rapid recovery.

"The hospital stay is very brief for most patients. Typically patients are released one to two days after the surgery. Patients have been very pleased with the surgery and the results," said Brockmeyer.

"Upon discharge from the hospital, each patient is given a tailored therapy regimen and physical therapy is recommended. Depending on how active a patient is, he or she can resume normal activity in about four weeks," he said. The recovery is dramatically different and research data from Europe suggests that the Oxford Uni Partial Knee implant has better results and fewer complications than other knee replacement systems.



The advantages of the Oxford Uni Partial Knee replacement are different for patients in various age groups and their activity level. Up to 15 to 30 percent of the patients who may have required total knee replacement could benefit from this new partial knee replacement surgery.

For more information about this new procedure, contact The Orthopedic Group at (724) 483-4880.

Why Are Joints Replaced?

Osteoarthritis is the most common reason for joint replacement. A partial knee replacement is typically used for patients who have osteoarthritis in limited parts of their knee.

Osteoarthritis (OA) is a disease that involves the breakdown of cartilage in one or more joints. Cartilage is a strong, smooth material that caps the articulating, or moving surfaces of the bones in the joint. It allows bone surfaces to glide against each other during motion. When the gliding cartilage breaks down or wears away, the bones grind against each other, which can cause pain and limited joint movement.

Is There a Cure for Osteoarthritis?

There is no known cure. However, patients have many treatment options designed to restore motion and reduce pain. For end-stage osteoarthritis, joint replacement has proven effective in accomplishing these goals.

Does Joint Replacement Work?

After joint replacement surgery, many patients experience reduced pain, increased mobility and improved quality of life. The performance and life span of an implant depends on many factors, including the patient's presurgical physical condition, anatomy, weight, activity and willingness to follow surgeon instructions before and after surgery.

What is Partial Knee Replacement Surgery?

Unlike total knee replacement involving removal of all the knee joint surfaces, partial knee replacement replaces only one side of the knee joint, removing 75 percent less bone and cartilage. Knee osteoarthritis usually occurs first in the inside compartment as this side of the knee bears most of the weight. In knees that are otherwise healthy, a partial approach allows the outer compartment and all ligaments to remain intact.

By retaining all of the undamaged parts, the joint may function more naturally.

Food poisoning can carry long-term health problems

Foodborne illnesses often cause problems many years later.

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — It's a dirty little secret of food poisoning: E. coli and certain other foodborne illnesses can sometimes trigger serious health problems months or years after patients survived that initial bout.

Scientists only now are unraveling a legacy that has largely gone unnoticed.

What they've spotted so far is troubling. In interviews with The Associated Press, they described high blood pressure, kidney damage, even full kidney failure striking 10 to 20 years later in people who survived severe E. coli infection as children, arthritis after a bout of salmonella or shigella, and a mysterious paralysis that can attack people who just had mild symptoms of campylobacter.

"Folks often assume once you're over the acute illness, that's it, you're back to normal and that's the end of it," said Dr. Robert Tauxe of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The long-term consequences are "an important but relatively poorly documented, poorly studied area of foodborne illness."

These late effects are believed to make up a very small fraction of the nation's 76 million annual food poisonings, although no one knows just how many people are at risk. A bigger question is what other illnesses have yet to be scientifically linked to food poisoning.

And with a rash of food recalls — including more than 30 million pounds of ground beef pulled off the market last year alone — these are questions are taking on new urgency.

"We're drastically underestimating the burden on society that foodborne illnesses represent," contends Donna Rosenbaum of the consumer advocacy group STOP, Safe Tables Our Priority.

Every week, her group hears from patients with health complaints that they suspect or have been told are related to food poisoning years earlier, like a woman who survived severe E. coli at 8 only to have her colon removed in her 20s. Or people who develop diabetes after food poisoning inflamed the pancreas. Or parents who wonder if a child's learning problems stem from food poisoning-caused dialysis as a toddler.

"There's nobody to refer them to for an answer," says Rosenbaum.

So STOP this month is beginning the first national registry of food-poisoning survivors with long-term health problems — people willing to share their medical histories with scientists in hopes of boosting much-needed research.

Consider Alyssa Chrobuck of Seattle, who at age 5 was hospitalized as part of the Jack-in-the-Box hamburger outbreak that 15 years ago this month made a deadly E. coli strain notorious.

She's now a successful college student but ticks off a list of health problems unusual for a 20-year-old: High blood pressure, recurring hospitalizations for colon inflammation, a hiatal hernia, thyroid removal, endometriosis.

"I can't eat fatty foods. I can't eat things that are fried, never been able to eat ice cream or milkshakes," says Chrobuck. "Would I have this many medical problems if I hadn't had the E. coli? Definitely not. But there's no way to tie it definitely back."

Hospital releases schedule

Monongahela Valley Hospital will offer the following programs the week of Jan. 21:

- Jan. 22 – Breastfeeding Support Group meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Vale HealthPLEX, Rostraver Township. For information, call (724) 258-2229.
- Jan. 22, 23 and 24 – Managing your Diabetes, 6 p.m., Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center. Three day, two-hour per day education series that focuses on diabetes self-management and care. For information or registration, call (724) 258-1483.

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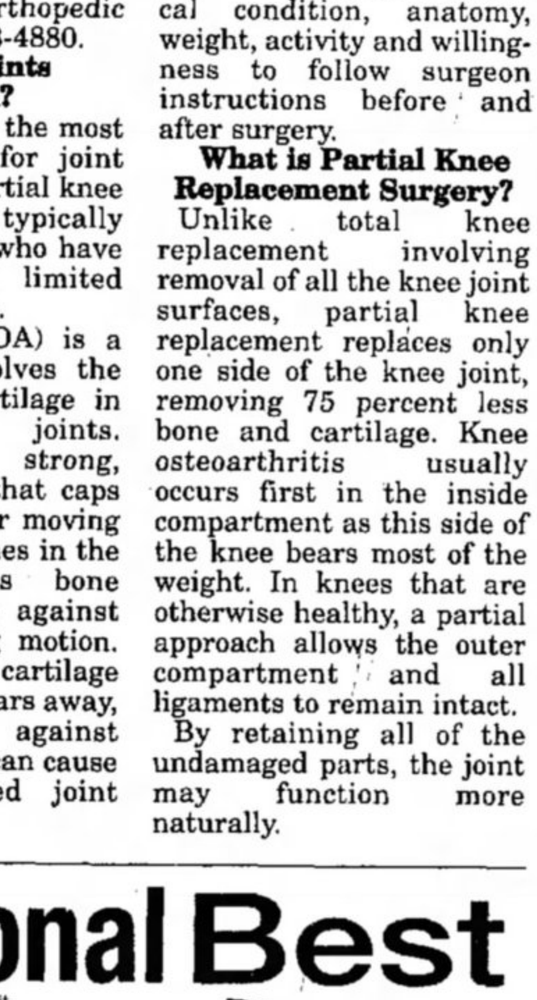

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TV LISTINGS

Woman can't contain rage over breakup with

Dear **ABBY**

DEAR ABBY: To be honest with you, if I had a gun, I could shoot either myself or my ex-boyfriend.

I was in love with him from the first day we met. We talked about everything in life and also about our relationship.

Now he says he's "not ready" for a relationship!

I don't understand men. Don't they know that we have hearts?

How could he just wake up one morning and make a decision without considering my feelings or how it will affect me?

Abby, I have a child, and my breasts are not that attractive. I even told him I would go under the knife to make them just the way he wants them.

Now I'm left wondering if I should still go for the surgery so maybe he'll be attracted to me again and come back. I can't bear the idea that maybe he has found someone else who is more attractive.

I need your help because sometimes I feel so much hate for him that I feel like getting revenge and doing something to him so no woman will ever be attracted to him anymore, and he'll feel what I'm feeling now. I will wait upon your answer so I'll know what to do next. — **RAGING IN DUBAI**

DEAR RAGING: The first thing you must do is calm yourself.

Do nothing until your anger subsides and you are again thinking clearly — which you aren't right now.

I know you are hurting, and your disappointment and anger are palpable, but you have something far more important to consider than "getting revenge," and that is the welfare of your child.

How would your actions affect your child?

A man who would criticize your breasts was not truly interested in you — the person attached to them.

Having plastic surgery in the hope that a man who rejected you will return is the wrong reason for having it done.

You could have breasts like the Venus de Milo, and it wouldn't win the heart of a man who simply craves variety.

I am not familiar with the mental health services that are available in Dubai.

If you lived in the United States, I would urge you to talk to a psychologist because I feel strongly that you have underlying issues that predate the experience you have described in your letter.

If that is not possible, then please talk to some older women you can trust so they can share their wisdom with you. You are in my prayers.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law lives alone, but comes to our house every day to eat lunch and dinner. She has a son who lives in the same town as my wife and me, but she never goes to his house.

My wife doesn't like this arrangement either, but she doesn't know how to tactfully tell her mother to stay away once in a while. We're both in our late 40s; her mother is 82. We would like to spend some time alone.

When I say my mother-in-law is here every day, I mean EVERY DAY!

Please tell me if this is normal, and how we can tell her we need some alone time. — **PAUL IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR PAUL: No, it is not "normal." You have described a woman who appears to be isolated and friendless. Could she also have money problems or a physical disability that prevents her from shopping and preparing her own meals?

If you and your wife would like some time alone, then you both are going to have to find the backbone to say so. And, if necessary, you or your wife should prepare a dish that her mother can eat in her own home.

(Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.)

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

TUESDAY EVENING

MOVIES | TALK | NEWS | KIDS | SPORTS

JAN. 22, 2008

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	News (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric/ (7) Entertainment/ (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N)/ (7) Inside Edition/ (10) Two and a Half Men	NCIS "Ex-File" Gibbs and Lt. Mann investigate the murder of a Marine captain.		The Unit "Pandemonium, Part One" Jonas runs from an assassin; Bob may be reporting to another agency, secretly.		48 Hours Mystery "In Too Deep" A college student is caught up in a murder case. (N)		News (N)	Late Show With David Letterman John Edwards; Diablo Cody; Josh Ritter. (N)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Tony Shalhoub; Becki Newton. (N)		(2) Extra/ (7) The Insider/ (10) Everybody Loves Raymond "Home From School"	(2) (10) Paid/ (7) That '70s Show Incriminating evidence.	(2) Paid/ (7) (10) CBS Up to the Minute (N)
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) News (N)/ (23) The Insider (N)	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition/ (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment Tonight/ (23) Wheel of Fortune	Just for Laughs Woman throws fruit. (N)	Just for Laughs Bystanders help start a race.	According to Jim Jim must cope while Cheryl is away.	Carpoolers "First Fight" Dougie wins concert tickets.	Boston Legal "Roe v. Wade, the Musical" A woman steals a man's semen and impregnates herself artificially. (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (N)/ (23) News (N)	Nightline (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live		(4) Oprah Winfrey/ (23) Paid	(23) Paid	(4) Paid/ (23) Jerry Springer (N)	(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight (N)/ (9) (11) Jeopardy! (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire/ (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune "Winter Hideaways"	The Biggest Loser: Couples A surprise elimination pits one pair against all the others. (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Inconceivable" Fertilized embryos are stolen from a sperm bank. (N)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N)		Late Night With Conan O'Brien Sean Hayes; Cheap Trick.		Last Call With Carson Daly Audrina Patridge; Morrissey.	Poker After Dark Phil Laak; David Williams; Annie Duke; Andy Bloch; John Juanda; Clonie Gowen.	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) That '70s Show/ (53) Frasier	(8) Seinfeld/ (53) Two and a Half Men	Seinfeld "The Pilot, Part I" TV pilot gets the green light.	American Idol Auditions. (N)		House "Games" House assigns the candidates to the case of an over-the-hill rock star.		(8) News (N)/ (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10		(8) The King of Queens/ (53) Seinfeld	(8) Frasier/ (53) Scrubs	(8) ★★½ Serial Mom (1994)/ (53) Scrubs	(53) Paid	(53) Bosley... Hair Loss Answers Hair restoration.	(53) Paid	(8) Paid/ (53) Sex and the City	(8) Paid/ (53) Cheaters
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	OnQ Magazine	Nova An impoverished family in Turkey walks on all fours.		Frontline The impact of the Internet on adolescence. (N)		Independent Lens (N)	Independent Lens (N)	Charlie Rose (N)			OnQ Magazine	Tavis Smiley (N)	Antiques Roadshow "Baltimore, Maryland"		American Experience "The Lobotomist" (N)
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	Reaper "Charged"		One Tree Hill "It's Alright, Ma (I'm Only Bleeding)" (N)		The 10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	That '70s Show	King of the Hill	South Park Casino owners.	Paid	Paid	Paid
(22) WPMY	The Simpsons	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Street Patrol	Street Patrol	Jail	Jail	TMZ (N)	Frasier	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Paid	Paid	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The Time Is Now!		The Time Is Now! Annual fundraiser.								The Time Is Now! Annual fundraiser.							
(57) WBGN	Temptation (N)	Temptation	Degrassi: Next	Reno 911!	The Nanny	Mad Abt. You	Movie				Reno 911!	Blind Date	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
A&E	Cold Case Files Arsonist.		CSI: Miami "Whacked"		The First 48		The First 48		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		Parking Wars	Parking Wars
ABCFAM	8 Simple Rules	8 Simple Rules	Grounded-Life	Grounded-Life	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Wildfire		Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
AMC	★★★ Blazing Saddles (1974)				★★★ Rio Bravo (1959) A powerful rancher seeks his brother's release from prison.						★★★ The Comancheros (1961)					★★½ Young Guns (1988)		
ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter		The Big Squeeze		Anaconda Adventure		Seven Deadly Strikes		Animal Cops Detroit		Anaconda Adventure		Seven Deadly Strikes		Animal Cops Detroit		The Big Squeeze	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		Life on Mars		Life on Mars (N)		BBC World News America		Life on Mars		Life on Mars		Coupling	Wrld Stand Up	The Weakest Link	
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)			★½ Hair Show (2004) A hairstylist needs her sister's help to win a contest.					Crank Dat Year Back		Hell Date	Hell Date	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	★½ Hair Show (2004)			
BRAVO	Housewives	Real Housewives		Housewives	Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		The Millionaire Matchmaker (N)		Real Housewives...		Housewives	The Millionaire Matchmaker		Housewives
CMT	Home Videos	Home Videos	Home Videos	Home Videos	20 Greatest Redneck Moments		Redneck Wed	Redneck Wed	The 2007 Miss America Pageant From Las Vegas				Miss America Moments		Pageant School: Becoming Miss America			
CNBC	Mad Money Women.		Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		Deal or No Deal		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money Women.		Deal or No Deal...		The Big Idea With Deutsch...		Paid	Paid
CNN	The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Independents Day: Awakening		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	★½ Death to Smoochy (2002)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Futurama	South Park	Lewis Black: Red, White		Daily Show	Colbert Report	Lewis Black: Red, White		Daily Show	Colbert Report	Com.-Presents	Com.-Presents
COURT	World's Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Disorder in the Court 3 (N)		Real Hustle	Real Hustle	The Investigators		Cops	Cops	Disorder in the Court 3		Real Hustle	Real Hustle
CSPAN	House of Representatives				Tonight From Washington						Capital News Today						Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	How It's Made	How It's Made	Dirty Jobs Cave biologist.		Dirty Jobs "Cave Biologist" (N)		Some Assembly Required (N)		MythBusters Life raft test.		Dirty Jobs Cave biologist.		Dirty Jobs "Cave Biologist"		Some Assembly Required	
DISNEY	Music in You	Cory in House	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Life is Ruff (2005)			That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Life Derek	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Replacements	Kim Possible	Emperor New	American Drgn	Buzz Lightyear	Timon-Pumbaa
E!	Kardashians	Chelsea Lately	E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Hugh Hefner: The E! True Hollywood Story				Girl Next Door	Girl Next Door	E! News	Chelsea Lately	The Daily 10	Girl Next Door	Snoop Father	Snoop Father	The Soup	Chelsea Lately
ESPN	SportsCenter		College Basketball Michigan at Wisconsin.				College Basketball Tennessee at Kentucky.				SportsCenter		NFL Live (N)	NBA Fastbreak	SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPNC	Stump-Schwab	Stump-Schwab	American Gladiators		Boxing		Russo & Steele Car Auction (N)		American Gladiators		Bull Riding: Ride Hard Tour		Boxing: Fullmer vs. Paret		UWF Wrestling	UWF Wrestling	Cheap Seats	Arliss
ESPN2	Tennis: Australian Open		NFL Live	Interruption	NBA Coast-to-Coast		Tennis Australian Open — Men's and Women's Quarterfinals. From Melbourne, Australia.										2007 World Series of Poker	
EWTN	Walk for Life	Taking a Stand	Daily Mass: Our Lady		Mother Angelica-Classic		Religious	Holy Rosary	March for Life Pro-life.								Threshold of Hope	
FNC	Special Report		Fox Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		Special Report	
FOOD	Minute Meals	Minute Meals	Emeril Live		Good Eats	Good Eats	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Ace of Cakes	A Cook's Tour	Good Eats	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Ace of Cakes	A Cook's Tour	Good Eats	Unwrapped
FSN	Final Score	Savran on SportsBeat		In My Words	Sport Science		Best Damn Sports Show Period		SportsBeat	Final Score	Best Damn Sports Show Period		Final Score	Best Damn Sports Show Period	SportsBeat		Final Score	Final Score
FX	★★★ Ice Age (2002)			★★ Fantastic Four (2005) Cosmic radiation grants four people unusual powers.					Nip/Tuck "Magda & Jeff" (N)		Nip/Tuck "Magda & Jeff"		'70s Show	'70s Show	Married... With	Married... With	Paid	Guthy-Renker
GOLF	Golf Academy	Inside PGA	Masters Highlights		Top 10	Golf Central	Big Break: Mesquite		Big Break: Mesquite		Top 10 (N)	Golf Central	Big Break: Mesquite		Inside PGA	Golf Central	Lessons	Golf Central
GSN	Lingo	Whammy	Weakest Link		Who Wants to Be a Millionaire		How Much	Family Feud	Family Feud	Chain Reaction	Lingo	Whammy	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire		Trivia Trap	Now You See	High Stakes Poker	
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Sacrifices of the Heart (2007)				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
HGTV	Small Space	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House Hunters	Designed-Sell	My Kitchen	Desperate Sp.	Open House	House Hunters	Secrets Sell	House Worth?	Hid Potential	Designed-Sell	My Kitchen	Desperate Sp.	Open House	House Hunters	Secrets Sell
HIST	Man, Moment, Machine		Modern Marvels		Siberian Apocalypse		The Universe		Mega Disasters		Decoding the Past		Siberian Apocalypse		The Universe		Mega Disasters	
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Still Standing	Still Standing	Reba	Reba	Forget Me Never (1999) Premiere.				Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Frasier	Frasier	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	The Nanny	Paid
MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		Live With Dan Abrams		MSNBC Reports		Massacre at Closing Time		Countdown-Olbermann		MSNBC Reports		Massacre at Closing Time	
MTV	Super Sweet	Super Sweet	True Life		True Life		Rob & Big	Life of Ryan	Life of Ryan	Rob & Big (N)	Best of Challenges		Life of Ryan	Rob & Big	Viva La Bam	Viva La Bam	Viva La Bam	Viva La Bam
NICK	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	Zoey 101	Ned's School	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Home improve.	Home improve.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Home improve.	Home improve.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince
OXY	Janice Dickinson Modeling		Janice Dickinson Modeling		Bad Girls Club	Bad Girls Club	Bad Girls Club	Bad Girls Club	Bad Girls Club	Janice Dickinson Modeling	Bad Girls Club		The Tyra Banks Show		Janice Dickinson Modeling		The Tyra Banks Show	
PCN	PCN Tours		PA Public Affairs														Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Lynn Cullen Show Talk show.		News	News	NightTalk With Ann Devlin		News		NightTalk With Ann Devlin		Honsberger	Fedko Fone	News			Paid	NightTalk With Ann Devlin	
SCIFI	Atlantis	Stargate SG-1		★★½ Stargate (1994)					ECW Royal Rumble countdown.		Guinea Pig	Guinea Pig	Flash Gordon "Blame"		Twilight Zone	Twilight Zone	The X-Files	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: NY		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		Star Trek: Voyager "Faces"		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine	
TBS	Friends	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Office	The Office	10 Items-Less	Sex and City	Sex and City	10 Items-Less	Blue Collar Comedy		10 Items-Less	Unfaithful
TCM	★★★★ The Quiet Man (1952)				★★★ Park Row (1952)			★★★★ The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948)				★★★½ Two Women (1961)				★★★ Paisan (1946)		
TLC	Property Ladder		Miss America Reality Check		Miami Ink "Skate or Die!"		Bussey Bunch	Bussey Bunch	LA Ink "Kat Cleans Up" (N)	LA Ink "Kat Cleans Up"			Bussey Bunch	Bussey Bunch	Miami Ink "Skate or Die!"		Miss America Reality Check	
TNT	Law & Order "Paradigm"		Law & Order "Charity Case"		Cold Case "Volunteers"		Cold Case		Cold Case "Resolutions"		Cold Case "Late Returns"		Without a Trace "Pilot"		Without a Trace		Without a Trace	
TOON	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Codename	Camp Lazlo	Foster's Home	Courage-Dog	Grim Advent.	Gym Partner	Ed, Edd	Naruto	Family Guy	Family Guy	Metalocalypse	Shin Chan	Ghost in Shell	Eureka 7	Family Guy	Family Guy
TRAVEL	Disney's Animal Kingdom		Disney Cruise Line		Hot Dog Heavens		Treasures	Treasures	Bizarre Foods-Zimmern		Disney Cruise Line		Hot Dog Heavens		Treasures	Treasures	Bizarre Foods-Zimmern	
TVLAND	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	★★½ To Live and Die in L.A. (1985)				Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Sanford & Son	The Jeffersons
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		★★ 50 First Dates (2004)				Law & Order: SVU		★★ The Guru (2002)			
VH1	★★★ 8 Mile (2002)			Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew	Scott Baio 46		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew		Caught on Tape		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		My Fair Brady	Celebrity
VS.	Holy ...!	Dakar High.	Holy ...!	NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Montreal Canadiens.					Hockey	TapouT		WEC WrekCage		WEC WrekCage		TapouT		Holy ...!
WE	48 Hours: Who Killed Jane?		48 Hours Mystery		48 Hours Mystery		48 Hours Mystery		Twister Sisters		Alien Abduct	Alien Abduct	48 Hours Mystery		48 Hours Mystery		Twister Sisters	
WGN	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Corner Gas	Becker	Funniest Home Videos		The Steve Wilkos Show (N)	
ENC	★★★★ Rain Man (1988)				★★ Step Up (2006)			★★ When a Stranger Calls (2006)			★★ The Program (1993)				★★ From Dusk Till Dawn (1996)			
HBO	★★ Take the Lead (2006)				★★½ Smokin' Aces (2007)				REAL Sports		The Wire "Not for Attribution"		Autopsy: Postmortem With		★★★ Jarhead (2005)			
MAX	King Ralph	★★★ Galaxy Quest (1999)			★★★ 'Crocodile' Dundee (1986)				The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning		Coed Confid.		Busty Cops 2: More Cops, Bigger Busts (2005)		Forbidden Temptations (2007)			
SHOW	★★½ The Out-of-Towners	★½ In the Mix (2005)					The L Word "Lady of the Lake"		.45 (2006)		★★ G (2002)				★★½ Lucky Number Slevin (2006)			
STARZ	Rush Hour	★★★ Tombstone (1993)					★★★ The Pursuit of Happyness (2006)			Head Case	Head Case	Head Case	Head Case	Head Case	Head Case	★★★ The Prestige (2006)		
TMC	★★ CrissCross (1992)				★★ Art School Confidential (2006)				★½ A Night at the Roxbury (1998)		★½ Kettle of Fish (2006)				★★½ Where the Truth Lies (2005)			

Helping 56 Homeowners By "Giving Away" 2,821 Furnaces For $941 With Our Custom Central Air

This is great news for your wallet if your furnace is over 12 years old. Because, Yes, it's absolutely true... you can actually replace your old (and probably very inefficient) furnace and air conditioner as a package for at least $1,680 less than you would have to pay at any other time.
Please allow me to explain...

Every year, the months of January, February, March and April can "destroy" my business. I end up losing a ton of money during these "business destroyer" months and it can take me the remaining nine months to make up for them. I'm looking for the same thing to [illegible] this year. That is why...

[illegible] Problem Is An Excellent Opportunity For You

[illegible] people and I want to keep [illegible] during these long, hard [illegible]. That is why I've decided to give up a profit during the "business [illegible]

[illegible] you the furnace and all I ask for is the [illegible] costs for installation.

Perfect Fit For Your Home

Just call me at 724-258-2215 anytime. I will come out and measure your home (and determine the availability of the proper size). Don't forget, I only have 56 matched systems in four sizes. When they are gone, this remarkable offer ends also.*

I will show you the real-world price on the air conditioner that fits your home. Then, I will show you the substantial savings available now. And it will include all labor and installation materials. Nothing is left out.

What A Really Simple Concept

By letting you win big now, I will win at the end of the year.
I'm betting that if I make you an offer that is "irresistible" (at least it should be if your furnace or air conditioner is over 12 years old) [illegible]

If I can accomplish these two objectives, I will minimize my losses and the rest of the year, I can be a winner.

You Can Buy With NO Cash*

You don't even have to pay me right away. I have set up a terrific bank rate financing plan. I even decided not to mark up the interest rate like some companies do.

Consider this: If you decide to make monthly investments instead of paying cash, the entire amount of your payments might be more than offset by the savings on your utility bills. It's like "having your cake and eating it too."

Fuel Efficiency Guarantee

I'm so confident that you will save at least 25% on your cooling and heating bills (I'm projecting more like 30% to 50%), that I will pay you Double The Difference for a year if you don't. I'll show you exactly how this works.

There is no way you can lose. Your home [illegible]

Why This Offer Can't Last

You must act before April 30th. Here are two reasons why:

I only have 14 systems for each of the 4 sizes to offer. When all of the air conditioners are sold and all the furnaces are "given" away in a particular size, that's it. There are no more at this price.

If I have any of the 56 systems left on April 30th (although I doubt I will), this offer ends.

Give me a call now at 724-[illegible] and I will get an appointment for you with no obligation or pressure.

Tim Barman
Owner

Brrrrr!

ONE HOUR

Dungy sticks with Colts

Indianapolis football coach Tony Dungy announced he will coach the Colts at least one more season. **2B**

Bill banned for a season

Buffalo's Anthony Hargrove gets suspended for a year for violating league's substance abuse policy. **2B**

Aussie faves fall

With four races left before this year's Chase for the Nextel Cup, some NASCAR drivers are altering their strategies. **2B**

Sports Trivia

Who are the two New York Giants to be Super Bowl MVPs? **2B**

Last night's scores

Carolina 3, N.Y. Islanders 2, OT
Phoenix 6, Buffalo 2
Nashville 6, St. Louis 3
Minnesota 4, Vancouver 2

Brian **HERMAN**

Don't count Giants out

Thinking out loud:

Like a lot of people, I would have liked to have seen Green Bay's Brett Favre go against New England in Super Bowl XLII.

But I'm not too upset about the New York Giants getting another shot at preventing the Patriots from posting a perfect season.

I remember their Saturday night meeting four weeks ago when the Giants led the Patriots by 12 points in the third quarter before losing, 38-35.

This time I don't think the Giants would blow a double-figure lead in the second half.

Does anyone else think New England being a 13-point favorite in the next Super Bowl is kind of high?

■ Corrections department: I know former Pittsburgh Steeler and present New York Giant receiver Plaxico Burress played at Michigan State and not Ohio State, as I wrote, the other day.

For some reason I was thinking of former Buckeye Santonio Holmes, the Steelers' first draft pick in 2006.

■ What are the odds of the Pittsburgh Steelers losing Willie Parker and Aaron Smith, the Pittsburgh Penguins Sidney Crosby and Marc Andre-Fleury and Pitt Levance Fields and Mike Cook to injuries all in the same season?

■ I can't remember a high school athlete getting more publicity for the last five months in western Pennsylvania than Jeannette's Terrelle Pryor.

That's saying a mouthful considering I've been doing this for over four decades.

Pryor is 79 points away from becoming the 23rd boys' basketball player in the WPIAL to score 2,000 points.

Incidentally, Belle Vernon Area's Vince Graham is fourth on the all-time list with 2,429.

■ Hats off to the Ringgold Rams Club.

They've put on two of the better banquets I've ever attended.

The first was the initial Ringgold Hall of Fame affair featuring Joe Montana, Ken Griffey Sr., Fred Cox and Stan Musial. The second was the Griffey Sr. Field Dedication Banquet the other night.

■ It's too bad Monessen's boys' basketball team has to wait until next year to return to the Class A ranks.

I think coach Joe Salvino's Greyhounds would have had a good shot at going all the way in both the WPIAL and PIAA in Class A this season.

With powerhouses like Beaver Falls, Jeannette, Aliquippa and North Catholic in Class AA, to name a few, the Greyhounds' chances of going far in the upcoming WPIAL playoffs aren't promising.

■ I'm happy to hear that Tony Dungy will be back coaching the Indianapolis Colts next season.

Dungy, who played and was an assistant coach with the Pittsburgh Steelers for nine years, is one of the NFL's classiest and more respected coaches these days.

And thanks to Chip Norton of Van Meter who says some of the best preaching is done by holding your tongue!

The 'perfect' storm

Monessen, Washington girls match unbeaten records in non-section showdown tonight.

By BRIAN HERMAN
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

The WPIAL is down to three unbeaten basketball teams - all in the girls' dividion.

Two of them will collide at Monessen today at 6 p.m. when the Class A Lady Greyhounds (18-0) take on Class AA Washington (19-0) in the first game of a doubleheader.

Monessen's boys (15-4, 10-0) face Charleroi (10-9, 5-5) at 7:30 p.m. in Class AA Secion 5 contest.

Despite their perfect records, Monessen coach Major Corley isn't playing up the contest.

"It's a big game, but not really," he said. "They're No. 2 in Class AA and we're No. 2 in Class A so this doesn't have any bearing on the playoffs. It's just a matter of one team possibly going unbeaten during the regular season.

If you would have told Corley before the season that his team would be going into the fourth week of January without a loss, he wouldn't have believed.

"Looking at our schedule I thought we had some tough games," he said. "My girls surprised me."

Although Monessen has been winning by an average of 28 points, the Lady Greyhounds had three scares.

Monessen edged Class AAAA Canon-McMillan, 49-46, at home in the second week of the season, shaded Class AAA Laurel Highlands, 59-57, in last month's Washington County Hoopfest at Trinity and held on for a 43-41 victory at Class A Secton 3 rival Serra Catholic three weeks ago.

> "It's a big game, but not really ... It's just a matter of one team possibly going unbeaten during the regular season."
>
> Monessen coach Major Corley

Although Washington posted a 60-41 win at Fort Cherry last night, Corley didn't go take a look at the Lady Prexies.

"I usually scout only one game, and that's when I get a bye in the opening round of the playoffs," he said.

Monessen is led by seniors Christina Chukwuedo and Kelly Mornak.

Chukwuedo, who's in her second year at Monessen after playing as a sophomore in Texas, is averaging 18 points and needs 22 to join the 1,000 point.

Mornak, a four-year player, has scored 1,027 career points and is scoring 10 points a game.

Monessen's 18-game winning streak is a record for one season and ties the mark set when Monessen finished the 2003-04 campaign with 14 victories and the WPIAL and PIAA titles and opened the 2004-05 campaign with four wins.

(See PERFECT, Page 2B)

Major Corley

Injured Sidney Crosby watches last night's game from the box.

Pens' Crosby goes on DL

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sidney Crosby's badly sprained ankle will force him to miss Sunday's NHL All-Star game, and a number of games after that, and he was scheduled to meet with the media to discuss the injury today.

Crosby, the leading All-Star vote-getter, injured his right ankle Friday during the Pittsburgh Penguins' 3-0 loss to Tampa Bay, and the preliminary diagnosis was a high ankle sprain.

Team doctors are expected to re-examine his ankle Tuesday. The Penguins do not practice Tuesday, but scheduled a 10:30 a.m. media availability with Crosby at Mellon Arena to discuss the injury. The ligament injury normally requires a long recovery — usually at least a month, and often longer.

The Penguins placed their captain on the injured list Monday, a procedural move that allowed them to add an extra forward for their two games before the break. The move was retroactive to Friday, and a player must stay on the injury list at least a week.

The NHL has not formally announced Crosby won't play Sunday, but the nature of the injury means Crosby is certain to be out for an extended stretch.

For now, the Penguins can only guess how long last season's scoring champion and MVP will be sidelined from a team that has overcome a poor start to become a prime Eastern Conference playoff contender.

Other athletes who have had a high ankle sprain — it is common in the NFL — say it is frustrating because rehabilitation alone can't cure it and considerable rest is needed.

Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury, for example, has been out since Dec. 6 with a high ankle sprain and is not yet ready to return. When Fleury was hurt, it was estimated he would return in six to eight weeks.

Before their Monday night home game against Washington, the Penguins recalled forwards Chris Minard, Tim Brent and Jonathan Filewich from their Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL) farm club.

Ovechkin, Caps defeat Pens in shootout, 6-5

Evgeni Malkin did his part with two goals but team still came up shot.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Evgeni Malkin couldn't have done a much better imitation of Sidney Crosby. On this night, even that wasn't good enough to outduel Alexander Ovechkin.

Ovechkin finished off an exceptional game by teaming with Alexander Semin to beat Pittsburgh goalie Ty Conklin with backhanders in the shootout and the Washington Capitals came from behind for a 6-5 victory Monday night.

Ovechkin and Malkin had two goals and an assist apiece during a matchup of Russian stars in which each seemed determined to not be upstaged by the other. One good shift would be followed by a better shift by the other, with the two stars figuring in five goals — with each scoring twice — in a hectic 12-minute span.

"I thought it was a great show of two young superstars trying to be king of the hill," Washington coach Bruce Boudreau said.

However, Malkin, 0-for-5 in shootout attempts this season, never got the puck in the shootout. Penguins coach Michel Therrien went with three other skaters, with only Jarkko Ruutu beating goalie Olaf Kolzig.

Pittsburgh couldn't get the winning goal despite having a rare two-man advantage for 1 minute, 7 seconds of overtime and being on the power play for nearly 3 minutes of the 5-minute extra period.

Ryan Malone put the Penguins up 5-4 about 5 minutes into the third, tipping in Sergei Gonchar's shot from between the circles. Viktor Kozlov sent it into overtime with about 5 1/2 minutes remaining with his second goal of the game and eighth of the season, with Niklas Backstrom getting his fourth assist of the game.

The All-Star game isn't until Sunday, but the NHL can only hope it gets a couple of its stars playing at the level Ovechkin and Malkin did. Chosen 1-2 in the 2004 draft, with Ovechkin going first, the former Russian Olympic teammates put on a show in one of the league's best regular season games this season.

"It really seems to be a battle between the two," Pittsburgh coach Michel Therrien said.

Upstairs in a private box, injured Penguins star Sidney Crosby and Hall of Famer Mario Lemieux clearly enjoyed a wide-open game that resembled those played early in Lemieux's career in the 1980s.

Malkin promised Friday after Crosby was lost indefinitely with a high ankle sprain to try to replace Crosby's missing offense and, so far, he has with three goals and an assist in Pittsburgh's first two games without Crosby.

"Yeah, we lost our best player and you can't really replace him," Malkin said, speaking through interpreter George Firman. "It's not (only) me, everybody has to keep up with every game."

Malkin had to be very good in this game merely to stay with Ovechkin, even though the Capitals star insisted he wasn't trying to outdo his friend.

"I just play for the team. It doesn't matter if you're Russian or Canadian," Ovechkin said after the Capitals won their fourth in a row and sixth in seven games to get above .500 at 22-21-5. "It's a game, and I think nobody has friends on the ice."

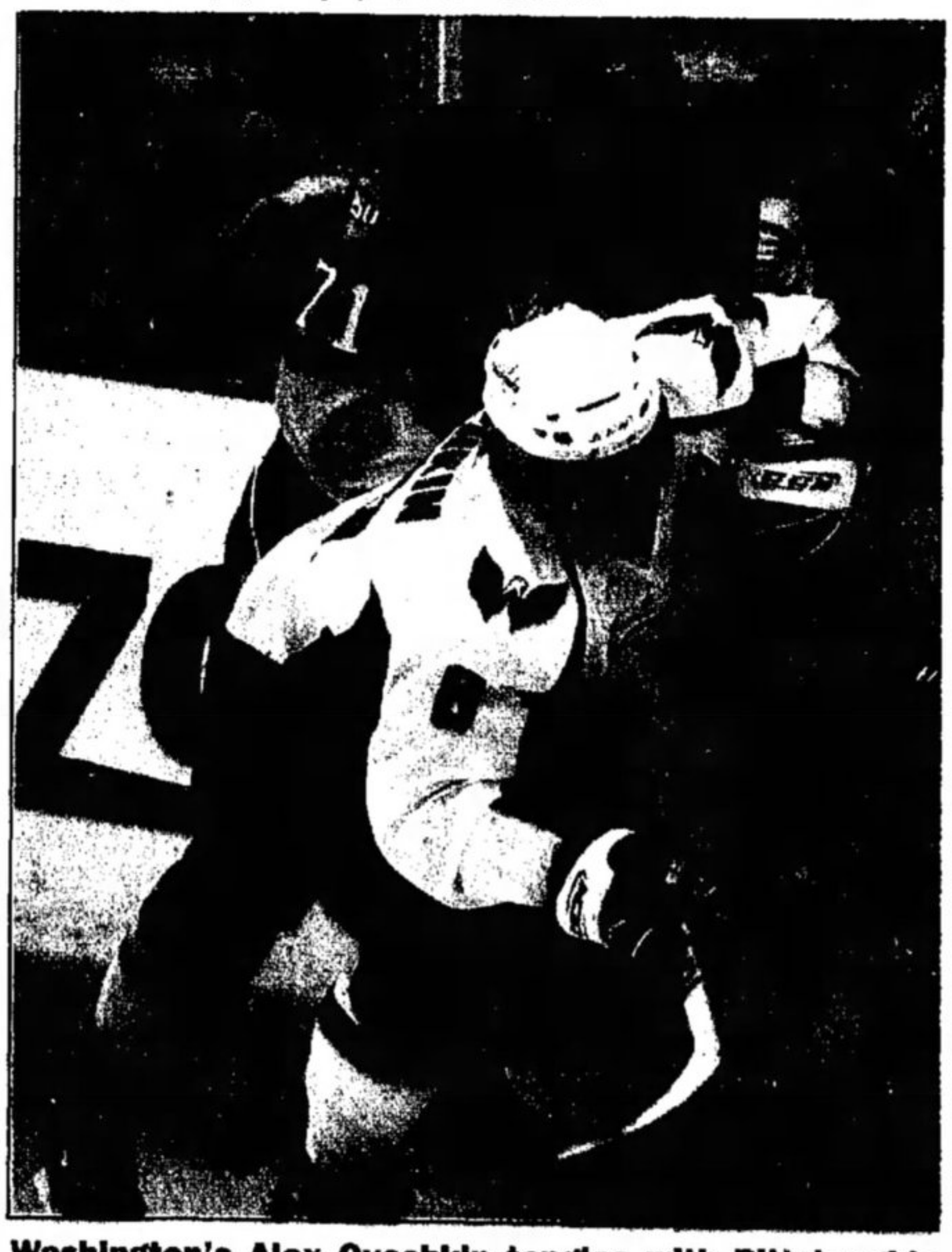
For all the goals, it was Malkin's hard check of Ovechkin near the end of the first that got the sellout crowd going, chanting his nickname of "Geno, Geno, Geno." Malkin, normally not a physical player, sent Ovechkin flying by lowering his shoulder as Malkin carried the puck behind the Washington net.

Ovechkin obviously wasn't intimidated, scoring a power-play goal less than 2 minutes into the second period on a soft shot that almost fluttered as it landed behind goalie Dany Sabourin, putting Washington up 3-2.

Malkin, who took 7 of the Penguins' 15 shots, responded less than 2 minutes later with his 26th goal by snapping off a shot from the slot, only 16 seconds after Pittsburgh went on another power play.

The Penguins, outshot 30-15, made it 4-3 less than 3 minutes later on another power play, as Ryan Whitney faked a shot from the top of the left circle before sliding the puck to Petr Sykora at the right side of the net.

Ovechkin, of course, came back less than 2 minutes after that with his league-best 38th goal, a slap shot from the left circle that led Therrien to pull Sabourin and bring in Conklin.



Washington's Alex Ovechkin tangles with Pittsburgh's Evgeni Malkin (71) during second period action.

Dungy happy as Indy coach

He says he will be back for at least one season.

NDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Tony Dungy has spent half his life balancing coaching and family.

He's about to give it a new look.

After taking a week to debate his future as the Indianapolis Colts' coach, Dungy decided Monday he would return to the sideline for at least one more season, mixing his priorities as successful coach and devoted father and husband with some cross-country commutes.

"The thing my wife and I realize is that we've done this before," he said. "We've done it for two years, we've done it parts of years in other places, and my dad actually commuted when I was in high school and was home on the weekend, and I think he raised four pretty good kids."

For Dungy, it was a deeply introspective process.

He met with his wife, his children, his pastor, had discussions with team owner Jim Irsay, team president Bill Polian and a few Colts players. He called trusted colleagues and longtime friends for advice and then relied on prayers to help him make the choice.

Eventually the first black coach to win a Super Bowl realized he still wanted to coach, had the support at home and even a longtime friend, Jim Caldwell, set up as his successor.

Tony Dungy

So the 52-year-old Dungy, who holds franchise records for wins in both Indianapolis and Tampa Bay, finally said — why not?

"I wouldn't come back if I didn't think we had a chance to win and that I was the very best person to help this organization," said Dungy, whose contract runs through 2009. "I wouldn't shortchange my family and wouldn't come back if my wife and children weren't for it. That's how the decision was made."

Leading up to Monday, Dungy provided few clues about his leanings.

When his family moved back to Tampa, Fla., and his 16-year-old son, Eric, enrolled at a high school there earlier this month, many speculated the devoutly religious Dungy might retire.

Then, after losing to San Diego in a divisional playoff game last week, Dungy repeatedly said he still hoped to coach.

Irsay offered everything — fewer day-to-day responsibilities, his private jet to attend his son's high school football games — to keep Dungy.

But the offers mattered less than Dungy's family's wishes or his own motivation.

'In Dungy's case, it did for the third consecutive year.

While Dungy debated his future, Caldwell, the Colts assistant head coach and quarterbacks coach, was being mentioned as a possible candidate for head coaching jobs in Baltimore and Atlanta. He had interviewed with Arizona last year, and Dungy didn't want the Colts to lose him.

So Irsay moved quickly, locking up the 53-year-old Caldwell with a contract that gives him the new title of associate head coach and puts him in the unusual position of head coach-in-waiting with no timetable for taking over.

"The good news is Tony's back, and he's back for not only this season but perhaps beyond that," Polian said. "I hope that's long beyond my tenure here."

SPORTS DIGEST

Ringgold pair in PIHL All-Star game

Senior goalie Dustin Tanner and junior forward Sean Robert Whiten will represent Ringgold in Saturday's 11 a.m. PIHL All-Star game at the Airport Ice Aren a.

Tanner will be making his third straight appearance after being the No. 2 star as both a sophomore and junior.

Tanner leads the Southwest Conference with an .892 save percentage, stopping 614 of 688 shots.

Whiten is the Rams' leading scorer with 32 points on 21 goals and 11 assists.

Ringgold girls to Chartiers Valley

Ringgold visits Chartiers Valley at 6 p.m. today in a showdown of the top two girls' basketball teams in Class AAA Section 4.

Thge Lady Rams (14-4, 6-0) own a one-game lead over Chartiers Valley (12-6, 5-1), which has won six straight.

Ringgold beat the Lady Colts, 47-36, in their first meeting.

Trivia answer

Phil Simms and Otis Anderson.

Pirates break ground on complex

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Pirates will break ground today on a Dominican Republic training center that will be similar in appearance to their minor league complex in Bradenton, Fla.

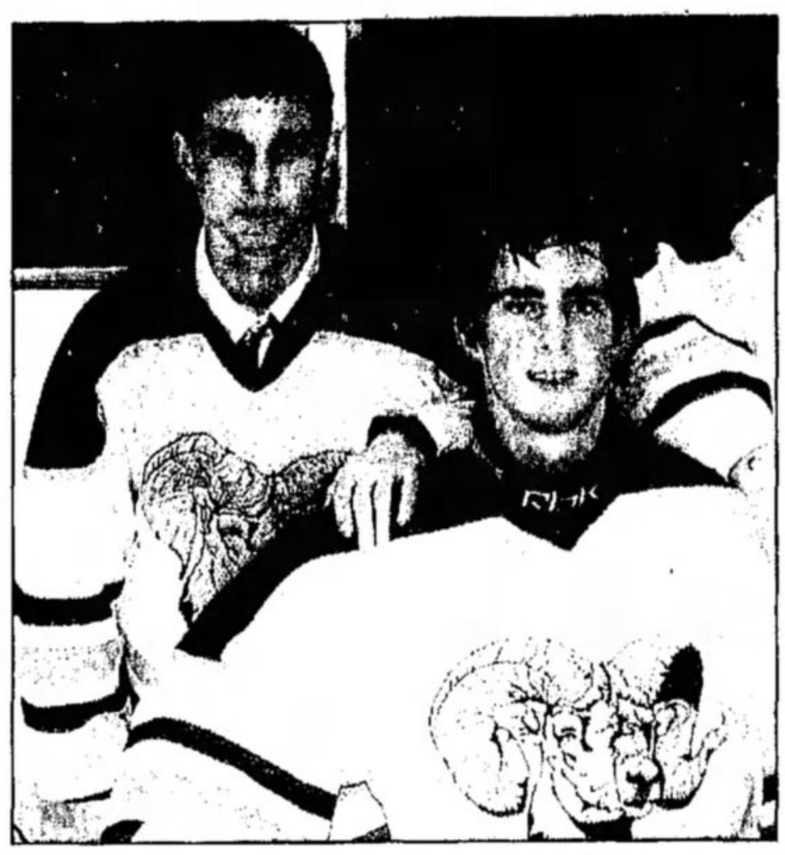
The site in El Toro will be the headquarters for the Pirates' Latin American operations. The Pirates have 20 scouts in nine countries in the region, including Mexico, Colombia, Nicaragua and Panama.

The president of the Dominican Republic, Leonel Fernandez Reyna, is expected to attend the groundbreaking ceremony on a 46-acre site recently purchased by the Pirates.

The complex will include two regulation playing fields, an infield training field and an observation tower. A clubhouse, office building, covered batting cages, pitching mounds and a dormitory that can house as many as 90 will be located next to the fields.

The complex is expected to be completed in about 18 months. The training facility the Pirates currently use in the Caribbean nation has only one field and no housing.

The Pirates' Dominican Summer League team will be based at the training center.



Ringgold goalie Dustin Tanner (right) and forward Sean Robert Whiten will be playing in Saturday morning's PIHL All-Star game at the Airport Ice Arena.

Chargers' Rivers facing sugery

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers needed surgery to get his right knee through the AFC championship game, and now needs a more extensive operation to repair a torn ligament in the same knee. His rehab could last six months.

LaDainian Tomlinson has a sprained ligament in his left knee but won't need surgery.

Henin bounced by Sharapova

Top seed ousted at Australian Open.

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Maria Sharapova ended top-ranked Justine Henin's 32-match winning streak with a 6-4, 6-0 victory Tuesday to advance to the Australian Open semifinals for the fourth straight year.

Sharapova won't have to face Serena Williams, who beat her in last year's final, after the eight-time Grand Slam winner was ousted 6-3, 6-4 by Jelena Jankovic.

Fifth-ranked Sharapova was beaten by Henin at the season-ending championships in Madrid two months ago in one of the longest women's tour matches — 3 hours and 24 minutes — and had a 2-6 record against the Belgian. But she came out hot on a cool night, constantly putting pressure on Henin and refusing to wilt when things got tight.

"It's just incredible," Sharapova said. "I really felt like I was in a bubble today."

She was looking forward to taking on Jankovic.

"We kind of grew up together, practicing at the same academy," Sharapova said. "It's a bit strange. We were always doing the same thing, playing the same groups. It was both of our dreams playing in a Grand Slam, especially playing each other."

On the men's side, second-ranked Rafael Nadal had a 7-5, 6-3, 6-1 win over No. 24 Jarkko Nieminen of Finland, making the semifinals for the first time in four trips to the Australian Open.

"Maybe I wasn't playing my best match, my best tennis today, but it was enough," Nadal said. "It's a good moment for me, first semifinals on hardcourt, Grand Slam."

The only player to beat Roger Federer in the past 10 Grand Slam tournaments, Nadal will face the winner of the late match between No. 14 Mikhail Youzhny and unseeded Jo-Wilfried Tsonga.

Sharapova, going for winners and keeping Henin on the run with deep, stinging groundstrokes, rushed to a 3-0 lead in the first set. Henin, the crowd favorite in packed Rod Laver Arena, kicked a ball after a fault in a rare show of anger.

She broke Sharapova as she served for the first set at 5-3, only to be broken on a pair of backhand winners in the next game by the Russian, who let out a primal scream of joy and relief.

Serena Williams

With little going right for Henin, who won the French Open and U.S. Open titles after missing the Australian Open last year, Sharapova rushed through the second set, ripping 15 winners to only five unforced errors.

BVA girls keep playoff hopes alive

EF girls lose, but Chareroi tops Burgettstown, 47-38.

Belle Vernon Area High's girls kept their playoff hopes alive with a 55-39 win over visiting Steel Valley on Class AAA Section 5.

The win avenged a 13 point loss to the Lady Ironmen aand put the Lady Leps in a fourth place tie with the loers for the final playoff psot.

Jocelyn Connolly (22) and Jessalyn Timko (14) combined for 36 points for BVA (5-13, 2-5), whch broke open a 34-30 game by outscoring Steel Valley, 21-9, in the last eight minutes.

Brittany Dunmire topped Steel Valley (9-10, 2-5) with 16 oints.

BVA and Steel Valley both close with section games against Elizabeth Forward, Thom,as Jeffersona nd Yough.

The Lady Leps visit Mt. Pleasant tonight.

West Mifflin downed Elizabeth Forward, 46-39, in the showdown for first place in Class AAA Section 5 to take a two-game lead.

West Mifflin (16-3, 7-0) outscored the Lady Warriors, 20-12, in the middle two periods to break an 11-11 deadlock.

Monica Poupakis (16) and Raven Metz (10) were high for West Mifflin.

Kristen Hawkins looked best for the Lady Warriors (16-4, 5-2), which had a six-game winning streak snapped.

Yough was a 61-40 loser to Thomas Jefferson in the other Section 5 contest.

Allison Saccani had nine points for the Lady Cougars (7-13, 0-7), who were outscored 37-20 in the second half.

In Class AA Section 5, Charleroi stayed in fourth place with a 47-38 win at Burgettstown with Bentworth slipping to fifth with a 60-46 loss to Brownsville.

Makayla Neff (14) and Aly Lee (11) combined for 25 points for the Lady Cougars (9-10, 5-4), who led 29-28 going into the fourth quarter.

The Lady Cougars host McGuffey tonight.

Bentwoth had a three-game winning sreak snapped as Brownsville avengeda nine point loss.

Amanda Kennedy took scoring honors for the Lady Bearcats (10-9, 4-5) with 19 points, two more than teammate Brittany Speed.

Emily Lucosh had 18 points for the Lady Falcons (14-7, 6-4).

In Class A Section 2, California remained deadocked for third place with Mapletown a 65-51 loss at Carmichaels.

Christina Wagner (20) and Morgan Moluski (13) combined for 33 points for the Lady Trojans (7-11, 3-4) who led 11-6 after one quarter.

California is home with Mapletown Thursday.

Frazier remained winless with an 89-11 setback at Clairton in Class A Section 3.

The Lady Bears' Kameron Townes (28), Alexis Sayles (19) and Chelsea Page (14) all outscored the Lady Commodores.

Laurissa Ellis had six points for Frazier (0-20, 0-8), which trailed 22-0 going into the second quarter.

Patriots' Brady is photographed wearing a walking cast on foot

NEW YORK (AP) -- Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was photographed Monday with what appears to be walking cast on his right foot.

The Boston Herald and Boston Globe had the photos - credited to infphoto.com - on their Web sites. A video of Brady walking with a slight

limp from an SUV to girlfriend Gisele Bundchen's apartment in New York is available on TMZ.com.

The Patriots beat San Diego 21-12 on Sunday and play the New York Giants in the Super Bowl in two weeks.

"Ah, you know, there's always bumps and bruises. I'll be ready for the Super Bowl," Brady said Monday during his weekly radio appearance on WEEI - before the photo and video emerged - when asked if his leg was injured.

"I'm not worried about that. I'm not missing this one. I'd have to be on a stretcher to miss this one. There will be treatment this week. In games like this, you get a little nicked up. It's nothing serious."

Patriots spokesman Stacey James wrote in an e-mail to the AP late Monday night that the team had no comment on the photos.

Brady threw three interceptions against the Chargers in one of the worst performances of what has been a record-breaking season for him. Brady has started in 124 consecutive games, the third longest streak by a quarterback in NFL history.

Bills' Hargrove banned for violating drug policy

BUFFALO, N.Y. -- Buffalo Bills defensive end Anthony Hargrove was suspended without pay for the entire 2008 season on Monday by the NFL after violating the league's substance abuse policy a third time.

The violation was Hargrove's second since August, when he was suspended without pay for the first four games of the regular season.

The Bills will be without the services of Anthony Hargrove for the entire 2008 season.

A third violation triggers an automatic one-year suspension, and Hargrove must apply to commissioner Roger Goodell for reinstatement.

The NFL did not disclose how Hargrove violated the policy. Violations can result from positive tests; failure to cooperate in the testing program or failing to comply with a treatment plan.

Hargrove's agent, Philip Williams, was out of the country and not immediately available for comment.

The Bills declined comment beyond issuing an NFL release announcing the suspension, which came three weeks after Buffalo (7-9) completed its season.

Though Hargrove has said he hoped to re-sign with the Bills, his future in Buffalo was already uncertain. He has completed his one-year contract and was eligible to become a free agent this offseason.

Ringgold gets easy win over TJ

Ram wrestlers benefit from nine forfeit wins in AAA Sec. 4 match.

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

JEFFERSON HILLS - Ringgold's bus ride to Thomas Jefferson High School may have taken longer than its Class AAA Section 4 wrestling match Monday.

The Rams were recipients of nine forfeit wins and won four of the other five matches en route to a 76-3 win.

Knowing that his team would have a win the moment it stepped off the bus, Ringgold coach Luke Smith decided to have practice before the team left.

"We knew that only five of our guys would get mat time today," he said. "So we held a full-fledged practice before getting on the bus.

"The five guys who had matches were the only ones who did not practice."

Dean Mathies (112), Justin Patz (130) and Fred Garcia (171) picked up pins for the Rams with Ian Mathies (140) getting a 15-3 major decision over Josh Russo, 15-3.

Smith said his team showed up to give a full effort at TJ.

"Our attitude is that we are not just going out there to win every match," he said. "We want to go out there and make a statement.

"We have that attitude at the matches, at practice, and in school."

Picking up forfeit wins for the Rams were Jonathan Fafalios (103), Brett Arbes (119), Aaron Duda (125), Brant Duda (135), Mike Tokar (145), Neal Rands (152), Chris Brown (160), Todd Miller (189) and Justin Johnson (285).

The Rams host Peters Township on Senior Night Wednesday.

"We have to win this one to have a chance at the playoffs," Smith said.

Perfect (FROM PAGE ONE)

Like Monessen, Washington averages 62 points.

The Lady Prexies' toughest tests were in their second and third games against Trinity (56-52) and Canon-McMillan (52-47).

Jenna Phillips, a 5-9 senior who joined the 1,000 point club last night, and 5-8 junior Jocelyn Floyd are Washington's top two scorers.

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago

Delmer Beshore and Dick Hartung both had 21 points in California State College's 93-82 loss at Mt. Union.

20 Years Ago

Mon Valley Catholic edged Geibel, 53-50, behind Holli Martos' 18 points in the showdown for first place in Class A Section 17.

Amy Lehner poured in 30 points in Elizabeth Forward's 65-45 victory over Ringgold.

Carmella Sumpter had 16 points in Belle Vernon Area's 69-34 loss to Connellsville.

Pam Mountsier scored 14 points in Charleroi's 79-46 defeat to Thomas Jefferson.

10 Years Ago

Pitt athletic director Steve Pederson announced that a new 12,500-seat basketball arena would be built atop a hillside above Pitt Stadium.

Ringgold's AshleyTotedo scored 24 points and grabbed 15 rebounds in Shippensburg's 71-61 win over California University.

Vince Graham had 18 points in California University's 89-55 romp over Shippensburg.

SPORTS

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	27	17	4	58	140	129
New Jersey	27	17	3	57	115	108
Philadelphia	26	15	5	57	153	128
N.Y. Islanders	23	19	6	52	117	134
N.Y. Rangers	22	21	6	50	118	128

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	30	14	4	64	163	136
Montreal	24	15	8	56	142	131
Boston	24	18	5	53	123	124
Buffalo	20	21	6	46	140	138
Toronto	19	22	8	46	138	160

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	24	23	4	52	155	164
Atlanta	23	24	3	49	140	169
Washington	22	21	5	49	143	152
Florida	21	24	4	46	122	140
Tampa Bay	19	24	5	43	137	157

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	35	10	4	74	169	109
Nashville	24	20	4	52	139	134
Columbus	23	20	6	52	123	124
Chicago	23	21	4	50	137	139
St. Louis	22	18	6	50	120	129

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	27	18	3	57	134	134
Colorado	26	18	4	56	136	131
Calgary	24	17	8	56	144	142
Vancouver	25	19	5	55	128	119
Edmonton	22	23	5	49	133	151

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	28	18	5	61	151	132
Anaheim	27	18	6	60	133	132
San Jose	25	15	7	57	122	116
Phoenix	25	21	2	52	131	131
Los Angeles	19	28	2	40	140	165

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Monday's Games

Carolina 3, N.Y. Islanders 2, OT
Phoenix 6, Buffalo 2
Nashville 6, St. Louis 3
Washington 6, Pittsburgh 5, SO
Minnesota 4, Vancouver 2

Today's Games

N.Y. Islanders at Carolina, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Boston at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Columbus at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Nashville at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Chicago at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Detroit at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Pens summary

Washington	2	2	1	0 - 6
Pittsburgh	2	2	1	0 - 5

Washington won shootout 2-1

First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Talbot 8 (Staal, Christensen), 4:30. 2, Washington, Fleischmann 6 (Gordon, Semin), 10:43. 3, Washington, Kozlov 7 (Ovechkin, Backstrom), 16:04. 4, Pittsburgh, Malkin 25 (Malone), 16:49. Penalties—Semin, Was (hooking), 5:36; Backstrom, Was (hooking), 13:26; Ruutu, Pit (unsportsmanlike conduct), 20:00.

Second Period—5, Washington, Ovechkin 37 (Fleischmann, Backstrom), 1:48 (pp). 6, Pittsburgh, Malkin 26 (Malone, Gonchar), 3:34 (pp). 7, Pittsburgh, Sykora 14 (Whitney, Gonchar), 6:13 (pp). 8, Washington, Ovechkin 38 (Backstrom, Jurcina), 7:58. Penalties—Laich, Was (hooking), 3:18; Semin, Was (high-sticking), 5:55; Scuderi, Pit (hooking), 11:44; Whitney, Pit (hooking), 15:28; Green, Was (interference), 15:55.

Third Period—9, Pittsburgh, Malone 11 (Gonchar, Malkin), 5:04 (pp). 10, Washington, Kozlov 8 (Pettinger, Backstrom), 15:29 (pp). Penalties—Bradley, Was (hooking), 4:44; Malkin, Pit (tripping), 6:38; Conklin, Pit, served by Filewich (delay of game), 9:09; Staal, Pit (holding stick), 13:50.

Overtime—None. Penalties—Poti, Was (slashing), 1:01; Erskine, Was (hooking), 1:54.

Shootout—Washington 2 (Kozlov NG, Ovechkin G, Semin G); Pittsburgh 1 (Christensen NG, Letang NG, Ruutu G).

Shots on Goal—Washington 9-10-11-0—30. Pittsburgh 6-5-3-1—15.

Power-play opportunities—Washington 2 of 6; Pittsburgh 3 of 8.

Goalies—Washington, Kolzig 17-16-4 (15 shots-10 saves). Pittsburgh, Sabourin (13-9), Conklin 10-1-2 (7:58 second, 17-16).

A—17,050 (16,940). T—2:46.

Referees—Mike Hasenfratz, Steve Kozari. Linesmen—Derek Arnell, Derek Nansen.

Mid-Atlantic Hockey League

	W	L	T	Pts
Indiana	24	1	0	48
Wooster	13	10	2	28
Mon Valley	10	13	3	23
Jamestown	10	16	0	20
Valley Forge	7	17	2	16

Friday

Valley Forge at Jamestown

Saturday

Jamestown at Indiana
Wooster at Valley Forge

Sunday

Mon Valley at Indiana (4 p.m.)

Sports moves

BASEBALL

KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Brett Tomko on a one-year contract.

CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with RHP Michael Wuertz on a one-year contract.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Proctor on a one-year contract.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with C Yadier Molina on a four-year contract.

SAN DIEGO PADRES—Agreed to terms with OF Jody Gerut on a minor league contract.

BASKETBALL

LOS ANGELES LAKERS—Signed C Didier Ilunga-Mbenga to a 10-day contract.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Re-signed G-F Jeremy Richardson to a second 10-day contract.

HOCKEY

CAROLINA HURRICANES—Recalled G John Grahame from Albany (AHL). Assigned G Michael Leighton to Albany.

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Placed C Sidney Crosby and F Adam Hall on injured reserve. Recalled F Chris Minard, F Tim Brent and F Jonathan Filewich from Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL). Assigned D Ryan Lannon to Wilkes-Barre/Scranton.

COLLEGE

OREGON STATE—Fired Jay John, men's basketball coach. Named Kevin Mouton interim men's basketball coach.

Michigan and Drew Neitzel go up against Wisconsin 7 p.m. on ESPN.

Sports dial

Today

Television

3 p.m. _ ESPN2 - Australian Open, tennis, tape delay.

7 p.m. - ESPN -Michigan at Wisconsin, college basketball.

7:30 p.m. - Versus - Boston at Montreal, hockey.

9 p.m. - ESPN2 - Australian Open, tennis.

Wednesday

Television

3:30 a.m. - ESPN2 - Australian Open, tennis.

PSAC standings

Men

Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Edinboro	2	0	12	4
Indiana	1	0	9	7
Lock Haven	1	1	1	15
California	1	0	10	4
Clarion	0	2	8	8
Shippensburg	0	2	6	11
Slippery Rock	1	1	3	13

Eastern Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Millersville	2	0	12	4
Kutztown	2	0	10	5
East Stroudsburg	1	0	12	3
Cheyney	1	1	8	6
West Chester	0	1	8	7
Bloomsburg	0	2	8	8
Mansfield	0	2	12	4

Wednesday

California at Shippensburg
Slippery Rock at Indiana
Lock Haven at Clarion
Bloomsburg at East Stroudsburg
West Chester at Cheyney
Millersville at Kutztown
District of Columbia at Mansfield

Women

Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Shippensburg	2	0	14	3
Indiana	1	0	16	1
California	1	0	14	2
Edinboro	1	1	10	5
Slippery Rock	1	1	7	10
Clarion	0	2	10	6
Lock Haven	0	2	5	11

Eastern Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Millersville	2	0	12	4
West Chester	1	0	9	6
East Stroudsburg	1	0	7	8
Kutzown	1	1	8	9
Bloomsburg	1	1	5	11
Mansfield	0	2	5	12
Cheyney	0	2	3	12

Wednesday

California at Shippensburg
Lock Haven at Clarion
Slippery Rock at Indiana
Bloomsburg at East Stroudsburg
West Chester at Cheyney
Millersville at Kutztown

High school boys' basketball standings

Class AAA

	Sec. 4 W	Sec. 4 L	Overall W	Overall L
Chartiers Valley	6	0	17	1
Keystone Oaks	5	1	10	9
Ringgold	3	3	6	14
South Park	2	4	7	11
Trinity	2	4	5	12
McGuffey	0	6	3	14

Today

Ringgold at Chartiers Valley
Keystone Oaks at Trinity
South Park at McGuffey

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Belle Vernon Area	5	1	13	5
Steel Valley	4	2	12	4
West Mifflin	3	3	8	8
Thomas Jefferson	3	3	5	11
Yough	2	4	6	12
Elizabeth Forward	1	5	5	14

Today

Steel Valley at Belle Vernon Area
West Mifflin at Elizabeth Forward
Yough at Thomas Jefferson

Class AA

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Monessen	10	0	15	4
Washington	9	1	15	5
Burgettstown	7	3	13	4
Charleroi	5	5	10	9
Brownsville	5	5	9	10
C-Houston	3	7	9	10
Waynesburg	1	9	3	14
Beth-Center	0	10	3	16

Today

Charleroi at Monessen
Burgettstown at Brownsville
C-Houston at Beth-Center
Waynesburg at Washington

Class A

	Sec. 2 W	Sec. 2 L	Overall W	Overall L
California	6	0	11	4
Carmichaels	5	1	13	3
Geibel	3	2	4	10
Mapletown	2	3	8	9
Jeff-Morgan	1	5	5	14
West Greene	0	6	1	13

Today

California at Carmichaels
Mapletown at Geibel

	Sec. 3 W	Sec. 3 L	Overall W	Overall L
Serra	9	0	16	1
Bentworth	7	2	13	4
Clairton	5	3	8	8
Sacred Heart	4	5	5	14
Cornell	3	5	9	8
Avella	2	7	7	11
Frazier	0	8	2	15

Tsday

Clairton at Bentworth
Sacred Heart at Frazier
Cornell at Avella
Quigley at Serra

High school girls' standings

Class AAA

	Sec. 4 W	Sec. 4 L	Overall W	Overall L
Ringgold	6	0	14	4
Chartiers Valley	5	1	12	6
West Allegheny	4	3	9	10
Keystone Oaks	3	4	6	12
McGuffey	2	5	7	12
Waynesburg	0	7	4	14

Monday

Keystone Oaks 44, Waynesburg 37
West Allegheny 49, McGuffey 39

Today

Ringgold at Chartiers Valley (6 p.m.)

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
West Mifflin	7	0	16	3
Elizabeth Forward	5	2	16	4
Thomas Jefferson	5	2	9	10
Steel Valley	2	5	9	10
Belle Vernon Area	2	5	5	13
Yough	0	7	7	13

Monday

Belle Vernon Area 55, Steel Valley 39
West Mifflin 46, Elizabeth Forward 39
Thomas Jefferson 61, Yough 40

Today

Belle Vernon Area at Mt. Pleasant

Class AA

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Washington	9	0	19	0
Beth-Center	6	3	13	5
Brownsville	6	4	14	7
Charleroi	5	4	9	10
Bentworth	4	5	10	9
C-Houston	1	7	5	15
Burgettstown	1	9	3	17

Monday

Charleroi 47, Burgettstown 38
Brownsville 60, Bentworth 46
Washington 60, Fort Cherry 41

Today

Beth-Center at C-Houston
McGuffey at Charleroi
West Greene at Burgettstown

Class A

	Sec. 2 W	Sec. 2 L	Overall W	Overall L
Geibel	7	0	13	5
Carmichaels	6	1	10	9
Mapletown	3	4	10	6
California	3	4	7	11
West Greene	1	6	1	17
Jeff-Morgan	1	6	2	17

Monday

Carmichaels 65, California 51
Jeff-Morgan 43, West Greene 39
Geibel 69, Mapletown 38

	Sec. 3 W	Sec. 3 L	Overall W	Overall L
Monessen	8	0	18	0
Serra	6	2	10	5
Clairton	5	3	8	6
Avella	3	4	9	8
Trinity Christian	2	7	5	13
Frazier	0	8	0	20

Monday

Clairton 89, Frazier 11
Avella 53, Trinity Christian 41

Today

Washington at Monessen (6 p.m.)

High school lineups

GIRLS

Charleroi - 47

Neff, 6-2-14; Lee, 5-0-11; Sidary, 2-4-9; Shannon, 3-0-6; Samoda, 0-2-2; Collins, 2-0-4;Tarpley, 0-1-1. Totals: FG - 18, F - 9 (16), T - 47.

Burgettstown - 38

Wilson, 7-1-15; Faloon, 0-1-1; T. Bonacci, 1-1-3; Shores, 1-2-4; D'Urzo, 2-0-4; Murray, 3-0-6; Kowalski, 2-1-5. Totals: FG - 16, F - 6 (19), T - 38.

Score by quarters:

Charleroi	12	10	7	18 -	47
Burgettstown	10	7	11	10 -	38

Three-pointers: Charleroi - Lee, Sidary.

Carmichaels - 65

Stuvek, 6-3-15; Busti, 7-2-16; Duke, 6-3-15; May, 4-4-14; Herbik, 1-0-2; McCann, 1-0-3. Totals: FG - 25, F - 12 (24), T - 65.

California - 51

Wagner, 7-6-20; Moluski, 6-0-13; Greenlief, 1-2-4; Zajicek, 3-2-8; Doman, 1-0-2; Lassoy, 0-1-1; Geno, 1-1-3. Totals: FG - 19, F - 12 (21), T - 51.

Score by quarters:

California	11	11	9	20 -	51
Carmichaels	6	17	19	23 -	65

Three-pointers: California - Moluski. Carmichaels - May 2, Mccann.

Brownsville - 60

Ulery, 4-0-8; Pelehac, 2-7-12; Onesko, 4-2-10; Bruschi, 3-6-12; Lucosh, 6-3-18. Totals: FG - 19, F - 18 (24), T - 60.

Bentworth - 46

Kennedy, 8-3-19; Speed, 6-2-17; Hamstra, 1-3-5; Robker, 1-0-3; Rick, 0-2-2. Totals: FG - 16, F - 10 (13), T - 46.

Score by quarters:

Bentworth	10	8	8	20 -	44
Brownsville	15	14	10	21 -	60

Three-pointers: Bentworth - Speed 3, Robker. Brownsville - Lucosh 3, Pelehac.

Clairton - 89

Sayles, 11-1-23; Townes, 11-0-26; Page, 6-2-14; White, 2-1-5; Thompson, 4-0-8; James, 2-0-4; Small, 2-3-7; Hall, 1-0-2. Totals: FG - 39, F - 8 (17), T - 89.

Frazier - 11

Ellis, 3-0-6; B. Fisher, 0-1-1;Gardner, 1-0-2; Traynor, 1-0-2; 'C. Fisher, 0-0-0. Totals; FG - 5, F - 1 (2), T - 11.

Score by quarters:

Frazier	0	6	5	0 -	11
Clairton	22	28	22	17 -	89

Three-pointers: Clairton - Townes 2, Sayles 2.

Billiards

Donora Men's Pool League

Standings

Division A

American Legion, 190-65; Firemen, 164-91; Eagles, 146-109; Hoot Owls, 132-123; St. Mary's, 116-139.

Division B

French Club, 128-127; Hungarian Club, 125-130; Rusin Club, 95-160; St Dominic's, 91-164; Ukrainian Club, 88-167.

Thursday

Firemen at American Legion
St. Mary's at Eagles
French Club at Hoot Owls
Ukrainian Club at Rusin Club
St. Dominic's at Hungarian Club

Last week's results

American Legion 12, Hungarian Club 5
Firemen 9, Eagles 8
Hoot Owls 13, St. Mary's 4
French Club 14, Rusin Club 3
Ukrainian Club 11, St. Dominic's 6

Wrestling summary

Ringgold 76, TJ 3

103 - Fafalios, R; won by forfeit.
112 - D. Mathies, R; pinned Slovanic, 3:51.
119 - Arbes, R; won by forfeit.
125 - A. Duda, R; won by forfeit.
130 - Patz, R; pinned McKnown, 3:10.
135 - Duda, R; won by forfeit.
140 - I. Mathies, R; maj. dec. Russo, 15-3.
145 - Tokar, R; won by forfeit.
152 - Rands, R; won by forfeit.
160 - Brown, R; won by forfeit.
171 - Garcia, R; pinned Roberts, 5:25.
189 - Miller, R; won by forfeit.
215 - Pastor, TJ; def. Sloan, 4-0.
285 - Johnson, R; won by forfeit.

Latest Line

NFL

Favorite	Points	Underdog

Sunday, Feb 3
Super Bowl XLII
University of Phoenix
Stadium-Glendale, AZ.

New England 12 (55) NY Giants

NBA

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Phoenix	7	MILWAUKEE
SACRAMENTO	5	New Jersey

College Basketball

Favorite	Points	Underdog
WISCONSIN	17	Michigan
E. MICHIGAN	5	Toledo
CLEMSON	12	Wake Forest
W. MICHIGAN	10	C. Michigan
CREIGHTON	6	Drake
NO. ILLINOIS	3	Ball St.
Tennessee	5	KENTUCKY
NEW MEXICO	5	Utah
OHIO ST.	7	Illinois
AIR FORCE	9	Colorado St.

HOME TEAM IN CAPS

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	33	6	.846	—
Toronto	22	19	.537	12
New Jersey	18	22	.450	15 1/2
Philadelphia	16	26	.381	18 1/2
New York	13	28	.317	21

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	26	17	.605	—
Washington	22	17	.564	2
Atlanta	17	20	.459	6
Charlotte	16	25	.390	9
Miami	8	32	.200	16 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	29	13	.690	—
Cleveland	22	18	.550	6
Indiana	19	23	.452	10
Chicago	16	24	.400	12
Milwaukee	16	25	.390	12 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	28	12	.700	—
Dallas	27	13	.675	1
San Antonio	26	13	.667	1 1/2
Houston	22	19	.537	6 1/2
Memphis	12	29	.293	16 1/2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	25	16	.610	—
Denver	24	16	.600	1/2
Utah	24	18	.571	1 1/2
Seattle	9	32	.220	16
Minnesota	6	34	.150	18 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	29	12	.707	—
L.A. Lakers	27	12	.692	1
Golden State	25	18	.581	5
Sacramento	17	22	.436	11
L.A. Clippers	12	25	.324	15

Monday's Games

Boston 109, New York 93
Washington 102, Dallas 84
San Antonio 95, Charlotte 86
Portland 111, Atlanta 109, OT
Indiana 110, Philadelphia 103
Houston 96, Seattle 89
Utah 109, L.A. Clippers 93
New Orleans 106, Milwaukee 92
Minnesota 109, Golden State 108
Memphis 104, Chicago 90
Orlando 102, Detroit 100
Cleveland 97, Miami 90
L.A. Lakers 116, Denver 99

Today's Games

Phoenix at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Top 25

Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Memphis(49)	17-0	1,777	2
2. Kansas(23)	18-0	1,751	3
3. Tennessee	16-1	1,591	6
4. Duke	15-1	1,543	7
5. N.Carolina	18-1	1,536	1
6. Wash.St.	16-1	1,442	8
7. Indiana	16-1	1,351	9
8. UCLA	16-2	1,312	4
9. G'getown	14-2	1,235	5
10. Michi.St.	16-2	1,175	11
11. Wisconsin	15-2	1,048	17
12. Texas	14-3	887	19
13. Pittsburgh	15-3	781	15
14. Vanderbilt	17-2	748	16
15. Butler	17-2	742	12
16. Dayton	14-2	567	14
17. Missi.	15-2	529	18
18. Tex.A&M	15-3	502	10
18. Villanova	13-3	502	25
20. Stanford	15-3	444	—
21. Marquette	13-4	332	13
22. Drake	16-1	313	—
23. Xavier	15-4	230	20
24. Arizona St.	14-3	182	22
25. Baylor	15-2	173	—

Others receiving votes: Saint Mary's, Calif. 144, Clemson 136, Kansas St. 120, West Virginia 90, Florida 49, Massachusetts 47, Gonzaga 32, Southern Cal 26, Rhode Island 17, Miami 15, Louisville 7, Cincinnati 5, South Alabama 5, Oklahoma 4, New Mexico 3, Akron 2, Mississippi St. 2, Cleveland St. 1, Creighton 1, Maryland

1.

College scores

MEN

EAST

Fairfield 70, St. Peter's 64
Georgetown 64, Syracuse 62, OT
Hartford 76, Maine 71
Marist 84, Niagara 65
Rider 68, Iona 63, OT
Siena 77, Canisius 49
Vermont 72, Stony Brook 62

SOUTH

Davidson 82, W. Carolina 67
Florida A&M 63, Coppin St. 48
Hampton 64, Winston-Salem 62
High Point 73, Charleston Southern 47
Jackson St. 69, Texas Southern 57
Liberty 78, Coastal Carolina 59
MVSU 61, Southern U. 58
Morgan St. 59, Bethune-Cookman 50
N. Carolina A&T 63, Delaware St. 61
Norfolk St. 84, Md.-Eastern Shore 65
Prairie View 76, Grambling St. 69
S. Carolina St. 60, Howard 56
Stetson 68, Longwood 60

MIDWEST

DePaul 92, Florida Gulf Coast 60

SOUTHWEST

Ark.-Pine Bluff 74, Alcorn St. 68
Texas 63, Oklahoma St. 61

FAR WEST

Gonzaga 72, San Francisco 64
Saint Mary's, Calif. 87, Loyola Marymount 55
San Diego 64, Portland 61
Santa Clara 101, Pepperdine 86

WOMEN

EAST

Connecticut 82, North Carolina 71
Long Island U. 61, Wagner 39
Longwood 59, Columbia 52
Manhattan 75, Rider 65
Marist 93, Canisius 66
Monmouth, N.J. 68, Cent. Connecticut St. 53
Mount St. Mary's, Md. 72, St. Francis, Pa. 59
Quinnipiac 57, St. Francis, NY 44
Sacred Heart 77, Fairleigh Dickinson 65
Siena 67, Niagara 62
St. Peter's 76, Iona 68

SOUTH

Alabama St. 59, Savannah St. 56
Chattanooga 74, Wofford 49
Coppin St. 90, Florida A&M 62
Davidson 50, Elon 40
ETSU 73, Belmont 63
Fla. Gulf Coast 84, Mercer 45
Hampton 58, Winston-Salem 38
Kennesaw St. 66, Stetson 59
Liberty 71, Coastal Carolina 44
Lipscomb 82, S.C.-Upstate 47
N. Carolina A&T 64, Delaware St. 57
Prairie View 66, Grambling St. 50
S. Carolina St. 97, Howard 45
Southern U. 60, MVSU 46
Virginia 79, Miami 68
W. Carolina 77, Furman 62
W. Illinois 78, Centenary 48

MIDWEST

Iowa 60, Illinois 58
N. Dakota St. 63, S. Utah 50
S. Dakota St. 76, UMKC 63

SOUTHWEST

Ark.-Pine Bluff 62, Alcorn St. 57
IUPUI 68, Oral Roberts 49

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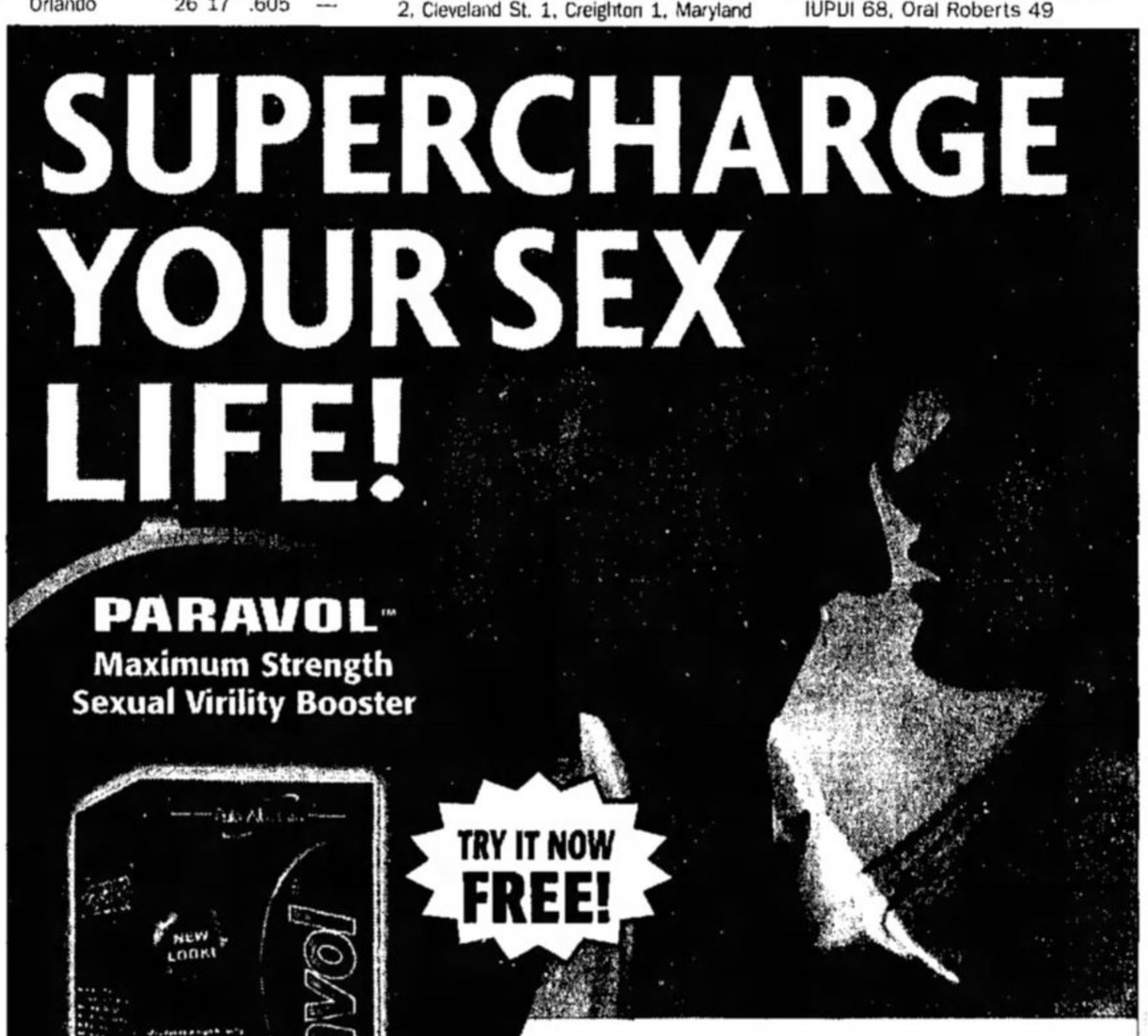

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COMICS

CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite

SPAGHETTI-STRAP TANKS. HIP-HUGGER LEGGINGS.. YOGA WEAR IS DESIGNED TO SHOW THE BODY!
YOGA GEAR
WHEN I HAVE THE BODY, I'LL BE HAPPY TO SHOW THE BODY.
BUT I'M DOING YOGA TO GET THE BODY! WHERE ARE THE NICE BAGGY TOPS AND PANTS TO WEAR ON MY WAY TO THE BODY!??
OH, HA, HA! HOW ABOUT A CUTE LOTUS BLOSSOM UNITARD?
GEAR
LIFE IS A JOURNEY... ...BUT THE CLOTHES ARE ALL FOR THE DESTINATION.

GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson

IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY! WE WEREN'T GOING TO JOIN THE RAT RACE!
THERE WAS A TIME WE INSTINCTIVELY KNEW WHAT MATTERED IN LIFE!
WE REJECTED PRETENSE AND WEALTH!
WE WORE FILTHY JEANS-WE DIDN'T GO TO THE MALL AND BUY JEANS THAT LOOKED FILTHY!

Classic **PEANUTS**® by Charles M. Schulz

YOU COULD WRITE A WHOLE NOVEL ABOUT MY LIFE..
IT COULD START RIGHT FROM THE DAY I WAS BORN
Born Crabby
© 1996 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

MONTY® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

IF THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP YOU SHOULD END IT...
I KNOW. SOMETIMES THERE ARE THINGS WE KNOW ARE WRONG, BUT WE JUST KEEP DOING THEM ANYWAY...
HOW SO?
OK, SAY YOU'RE IN A SUPERMARKET AND YOU KNOW IT'S NOT RIGHT, BUT STILL YOU FEEL COMPELLED TO GRAB A CANISTER OF SPRAY CHEESE AND TAKE A QUICK SHOT WHILE YOU'VE SHOPPING...
THAT'S DISGUSTING! DO YOU REALLY DO THAT?!
UM NO PURELY HYPOTHETICAL. I THINK I READ ABOUT IT SOMEWHERE.

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

LET'S READ THE FUNNIES
THAT'S MY FATHER'S NEWSPAPER. IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY COMICS.
FINANCIAL
WALL ST.
1-22
HE LOOKS LIKE HE NEEDS TO MIX MORE PLEASURE WITH HIS BUSINESS.

BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker

WHY DOES ROCKY HAVE HIS iPOD ON? HE CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING OVER THE LAWNMOWER
HAVE YOU HEARD THE MUSIC HE LISTENS TO?
1-22
GREG+ MORT WALKER
HE CAN'T HEAR THE LAWNMOWER OVER THE MUSIC!
BOOM
BOOM!

BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

WHIRRRRRRR
Articles 1/22
GLADYS, ARE YOU USING MY PAPER SHREDDER?
DID YOU KNOW IT SHREDS CABBAGE PERFECTLY FOR COLESLAW?
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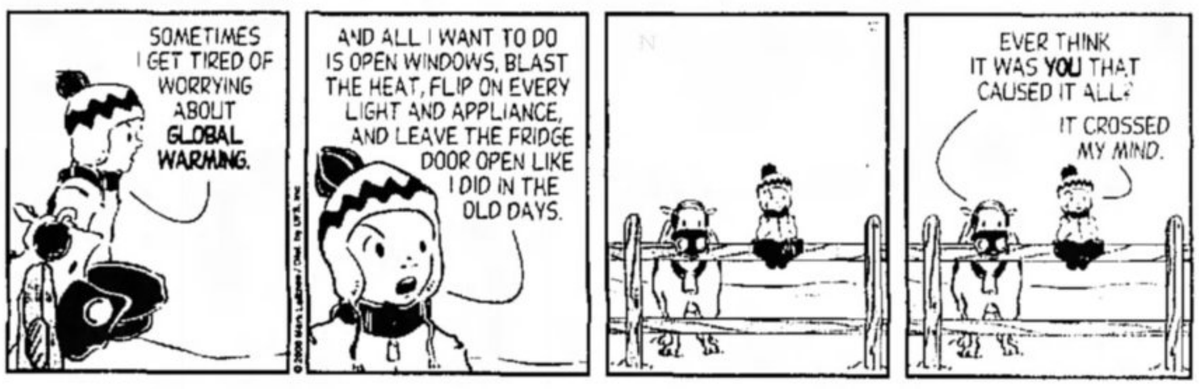
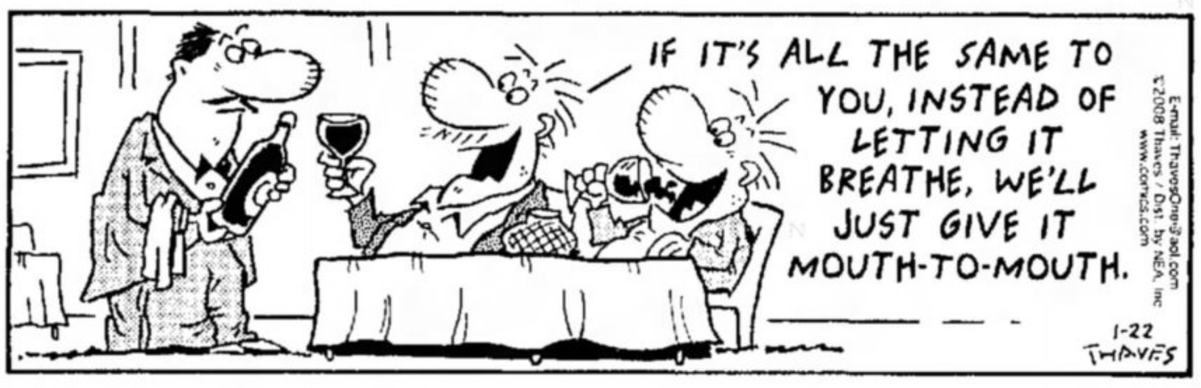
GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN EVERYONE WAS ALL UPSET ABOUT THAT MAD COW THING?
YEAH... I NEVER UNDERSTOOD THAT...
HECK, IF I HAD 4 STOMACHS I'D BE DANCING IN THE STREETS!
AMEN!

COW AND BOY® by Mark Leiknes


SOMETIMES I GET TIRED OF WORRYING ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING.
AND ALL I WANT TO DO IS OPEN WINDOWS, BLAST THE HEAT, FLIP ON EVERY LIGHT AND APPLIANCE, AND LEAVE THE FRIDGE DOOR OPEN LIKE I DID IN THE OLD DAYS.
EVER THINK IT WAS YOU THAT CAUSED IT ALL?
IT CROSSED MY MIND.

FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves


IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU, INSTEAD OF LETTING IT BREATHE, WE'LL JUST GIVE IT MOUTH-TO-MOUTH.
1-22
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HERMAN® by Jim Unger

"Divorce is very hard on the goldfish."

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

kitncarlyle@comcast.net
I'D TAKE A NAP ON HER LAP BUT IT LOOKS STICKY ENOUGH THAT I WOULDN'T GET UP.
1-22
LARRY WRIGHT
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SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski

WHAT'RE YA DOIN'?
PRACTICING MY ZEN MEDITATION.
ZEN TEACHES THE VALUE OF THINKING AND DOING NOTHING...
I USUALLY GET DETENTION FOR DOING THAT.
STROMOSKI

BIG NATE® by Lincolin Peirce

MR. ROSA, I DON'T GET WHAT MAKES SOMETHING ART.
I MEAN, HERE'S A GUY WHO STACKED A DOZEN TAXICABS ON TOP OF ONE ANOTHER. IS THAT ART?
WHY NOT?
IF WHOEVER MADE SOMETHING SAYS IT'S ART, IT'S ART!
REALLY?
GUYS!
I MAY HAVE JUST OPENED A CAN OF WORMS.

ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue

ALLEY OOP? IS THAT REALLY YOU?
WHAT? OH... UH... I'M NOT...
WHOA!! GROSS!! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, MR. OOP? YOU LOOK REALLY SICK OR SOMETHIN'!
HMMMM... MAYBE I COULD USE THIS!
1-22

MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod

The Valley Independent Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Drain problem
5 Pub pint
8 Excavated
11 Rude person
12 Vagrant
13 Flightless birds
15 Conscience
17 Just slightly (2 wds.)
18 Have lunch
19 Texas border town
21 Pinochle combos
24 House pest
25 Account exec
26 A Gershwin
27 Prairies
30 Polite
32 Where — you?
33 Thoughtful
37 Chills the wine
38 Heavy weight
39 Fluctuate (hyph.)
40 Gumshoe
43 Badminton need
44 Bran source
47 Music or dance
48 Deposes
50 Pistil top
52 Faucet word
53 Brain part
54 Result in (3 wds.)
59 Not mention
60 Attorney's forte
61 Type of squad
62 Airline to Stockholm
63 Hearty laugh
64 Kid in "Aliens"

DOWN

1 Letterman network
2 "Skip to My —"
3 Dinny's rider
4 Money-hunger
5 Be an accomplice
6 Wheel nut
7 Softening substance
8 Treasured
9 Earth tone
10 Tour giver
14 Bring to an end
16 Grate upon
20 Novelist — Rand
21 Dress style
22 Mr. Sevareid
23 Thrash
24 Rad (hyph.)
28 Sideways
29 Diver's milieu
31 Double curve
34 Free electrons
35 Boris' refusal
36 Specks
41 Take it on the —
42 Parka feature
44 Scandinavian city
45 Physics particles
46 Leg bone
49 180-degree maneuver (hyph.)
51 Catches on
52 Bird of prey
55 Paris thirst-quencher
56 Cake alternative
57 AAA service
58 Giants hero of yore

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	E	E	K		B	R	A			P	E	C
E	D	G	E		L	A	M	B		A	P	E
W	A	G	E		A	W	A	Y		U	S	E
	M	Y	N	A	H		H	E	L	L	O	S
			E	O	S			B	E	A	M	
P	E	A	R	L		J	A	Y	S			
S	I	S			F	I	N	E	S	S	E	D
I	N	H	E	R	E	N	T			U	T	A
			T	A	N	K		W	O	M	A	N
	A	M	O	K			R	O	I			
M	E	A	N	I	E		O	W	L	E	T	
U	R	N		S	K	E	W		C	L	A	P
C	I	I		H	E	A	D		A	M	B	O
K	E	A			D	R	Y		N	O	S	E

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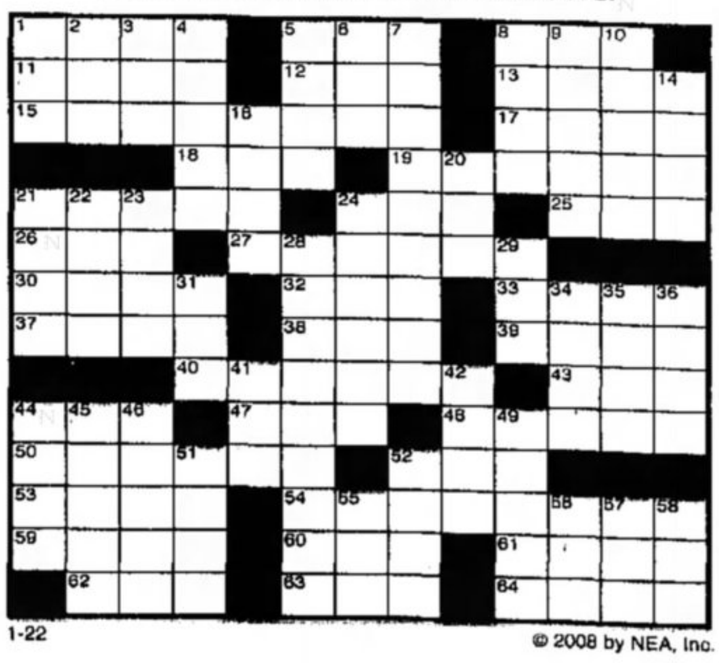

1-22

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MONONGAHELA AREA LIBRARY

The Monongahela Area Library has received the following:

Donations

Virginia Eifler by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Graham.

Margaret Peters Power by Barbara Roop.

Betty Keenan by June and Jim Yevincy.

Thelma Proctor by June and Jim Yevincy.

"Between the Lines," presented by the Monongahela Area Writers Group.

Memorials

Charles Provan

"The President, the Pope and the Prime Minister: Three Who Changed the World" by John O'Sullivan, presented by Mona Rae Williams.

Margaret Peters Power

"Little Heathens," by Mildred Armstrong Kalish, presented by Mona Rae Williams.

Logan Vaughan

"Driving Home: My Unforgettable Super Bowl," by Jerome Bettis, presented by Ernie, Karen and Keeley O'Brien.

Logan Vaughan

"Before your Dog Can Eat Your Homework, First You Have to Do It," by John O'Hurley, presented by Ernie, Karen and Keeley O'Brien.

MAKING THE GRADE

Luciani recognized

Luciani

The Belle Vernon Rotary Club named Timothy Luciani as its student of the month for December.

A Belle Vernon Area High School senior, he serves as Radio Club president and National Honor Society vice president. He is active with Bible Club, volleyball, Interact Club and the gifted program. The son of Cynthia Bailey and Basil Luciani, of West Newton, he works at Kmart in Rostraver Township. He plans to attend college.

Yavorsky makes PSU dean's list

Junior aerospace major Matthew Yavorsky was named to the fall dean's list at Penn State University, State College. The son of Kimberly and Richard Yavorsky, of Charleroi, he is the grandson of Georgetta Dash and Antoinette Yavorsky, both of Monongahela.

Vargo makes Hamilton list

Senior mathematics major Olivia Vargo was named to the fall dean's list at Hamilton College. The daughter of Elene Vargo, of California, she is a California Area High School graduate.

First names, too

When submitting news to making the grade, include the first and last names of everyone listed.

The Greater Rostraver Chamber of Commerce named CSC Insurance Options as its business of the month. CSC is an independent auto, home and life insurer with nearly 40 licensed agents and representatives. From left are Tom Mimidis, chamber executive board; Bob Paraschak, account executive; Marie Giorrdano, commercial representative assistant; Mary Perrotta, sales; Tom Svrcek, president; Lynn Rauch, commercial management; and Andrew Solan, chamber executive board.

The Southwestern Chiefs' and Assistant Chiefs' Association installed officers during a ceremony at the Ohiopyle Volunteer Fire Department. Above, from left, are Magisterial District Judge Wendy Dennis, who administered oaths of office; Chaplin Roye Leckemby, Smithfield Volunteer Fire Department; Vice President Harold Whyel, Point Marion Volunteer Fire Deptartment; President Jim Bungard, Ohiopyle Volunteer Fire Department; Treasurer William Klamorick, Stockdale Volunteer Fire Department; and Secretary Elmer Saletrik, North Union Volunteer Fire Department.

The Fallowfield Township Volunteer Fire Company installed the following 2008 line officers, from left, Fire Chief Anthony Fleming, 2nd Capt. Steven Carson, First Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Popelas, First Capt. Kenneth Kibler, Second Assistant Fire Chief Eugene Lipari, Safety Officer Sam Woncheck and Lt. Richard Moze.

ON CAMPUS AT CAL U

Butzine returns

Butzine

Craig S. Butzine has been named director of marketing at California University of Pennsylvania.

A 1984 Cal U graduate, he previously operated the Craig Group LLC.

He has served as vice president of Global Marketing Services for Marconi; senior vice president/management supervisor for The St. George Group; account supervisor for Della Femina McNamee; and was an account executive for Campbell- Mithun-Esty.

He received a master of science degree in advertising from Northwestern University.

Alumni honored

Berger

Pevarnik

Jeff Berger and Esther Ross Howard Pevarnik received "Distinguished Alumni of the Year" awards from Cal U.

A Munhall native who graduated from then-California State College in 1971, Berger and his wife established the Jeff and Beverly Berger Faculty Fellowship in Education to encourage innovative approaches to teacher education.

Berger has served as a member of the University Foundation board and was a member of the 1995 Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

A member of the Presidential Advisors board, he has been involved in the planning for the "Capital Campaign to Build Character and Careers."

He is executive vice president and chairman of worldwide foodservice for H.J. Heinz Co.

A Latrobe resident, Pevarnik formerly taught at Greensburg Central Catholic High School and for the Greater Latrobe School District.

With help from Cal U grads Ron Hughes and Richard Saccani, she established a scholarship in memory of her late husband, Joe Howard.

They organized the annual "Coach Joe Howard Memorial Golf Outing" to generate money for the endowed scholarship.

Degrees conferred

Hughes

Perry

Hamer

More than 1,000 students received degrees at Cal U's 165th commencement exercise.

Michael A. Perry, class of 1963, and Dale L. Hamer, class of 1960, spoke at the event.

Retired professor Rose Greco Hughes, class of 1925, received a Doctor of Humane Letters degree from university President Angelo Armenti Jr.

Hughes, one of Cal's oldest living alumni, is 101 years old.

She retired in 1974 after teaching 36 years in the special education department.

Perry became a U.S. Navy Pilot with 212 carrier landings. Following his military career, he flew commercial Boeing 747-400 aircraft before before moving to the financial services and real estate industries.

Hamer, a National Football League official, is past president, secretary and treasurer of the National Football League Referees Association.

He is president of of Cal U's foundation and past interim director of alumni relations.

Prah named VA director

Prah Jr.

Smithton Mayor Robert L. Prah Jr. has been named Cal U director of veterans affairs.

A 2006 Cal U graduate, he is a second lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

Prah served for nearly two years on active duty in support of Operation Noble Eagle through the Department of Homeland Security.

SERVICE NEWS

Graft completes basic training

Graft

U.S. Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class Keith A. Graft has completed basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

He is the son of Barbara Denning, of Mt. Pleasant, and the grandson of Donna Graft, of Dawson.

The First Street Rambler appears Fridays in The Valley

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TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

FEATURES

Frugal Living

Towels: Low-cost luxury

Sara **NOEL**

Frugal discussions often mention pampering yourself. One way to experience luxury on a shoestring is by investing in a quality set of towels. White sales are approaching, so if your towels are threadbare and scratchy, now is a good time to buy a new set. You have an opportunity to buy high-quality towels that will last for years without paying a high price. Your old set can be used for rags.

Selecting towels can be as easy as grabbing them off the store shelf, but depending on what you're using them for, you should check the labels. Most towels are made of cotton.

STANDARD COTTON: These are ideal for daily family use with their shorter loops, less snagging and greater durability. You won't mind using them to dry off or tossing them onto the floor for cleanups.

SAY NO TO SYNTHETICS: If you're drawn to fluffier, thicker towels, avoid ones that are made of a combination of cotton and synthetic materials. These towels will look shiny and feel plush but won't be as absorbent, don't last as long and are prone to pilling. Some cotton towels have additives that trick the senses, too. After washing, you could discover they aren't as soft as they seemed in the store.

EGYPTIAN, SUPIMA AND COMBED COTTON: You need to pick a towel up and check the weight; avoid towels that feel light. You'll find 100 percent Egyptian, Supima and combed cotton towels will have longer loops that are closer together than standard cotton, but will have better absorbency and a softer feel. They are weightier and are often of better quality. These towels feel and look luxurious and are long-lasting, too. These are a good choice for your master bathroom, guests and for display.

MICROFIBER AND BAMBOO: These won't pass the cotton "weight test" because they are lighter and thinner than 100 percent cotton towels. They are soft, durable and fade less, are extremely absorbent, take less time to dry and take up less space. Bamboo towels feel silky and are naturally antibacterial and antistatic. You'll find the price is higher for both types, but the benefits are greater, too. If you're unsure whether you'd like a material other than 100 percent cotton, buy a hand towel or washcloth to sample.

ORGANIC COTTON: These towels have all of the benefits of conventional cotton but are better for the planet. While they are higher priced, if the demand increases, the cost will decrease, and in time they'll be more widely available. Buying organic cotton helps support organic farmers and producers, too. Consider how much cotton is a part of our daily lives. It takes a lot of chemicals to produce it. These toxic chemicals end up in the soil, air, food and water. I won't endlessly preach the benefits of organic cotton or try to scare you with facts, but positive changes can happen with the consumer choices you make. Conventional cotton might be cheaper, but at what human price? Why pass up a sustainable product?

CARE TIPS: Wash your towels before using, but don't use chlorine bleach or fabric softener because it affects absorbency and unnecessary wearing of the fabric. Don't use hot water: It may shrink the fabric and trims. Launder towels separate from your other laundry. Zippers can snag towels and towel lint, and excess dyes can get on your other laundry.

VALLEY CLUB NOTES

Mary Ann Gallo, president, presents a $100,000 candy bar to the Rev. David Nazimek, symbolic of the money Epiphany Ladies have raised since the parish was formed 14 years ago.

Epiphany Ladies

President Mary Ann Gallo welcomed members to the January meeting and led them in prayer.

January chairpersons were Bea Sarra and Patty Pettko.

A ceremony was held to celebrate $100,000 being given to Epiphany Parish during the past 14 years since the churches merged.

Thanks were offered for the first chaplain, the Rev. Dennis Sheehy, the second, the Rev. Paul Lisik and the present pastor, the Rev. David Nazimek and also the first president, Christine Kerekes.

Secretary Sophia Janol led members in prayer.

Treasurer Virginia Saunders explained how donations were used and the accomplishments made last year.

Vice President Betty Manderino presented Nazimek with a card.

Gallo led members in the Stewardship Prayer and presented Nazimek with a gift boxed $100,000 candy bar - symbolic of the total raised by the organization. Officers distributed small candy bars to members.

Janol and Saunders issued reports. Correspondence was read.

Kathy Byron issued the DCCW report.

Welfare chairperson Rene Moncini sent cards to Mary Ellen Kunka, Ellen Fotheringham, Cecilia Pardus, Betty Manderino, Julia Rauscher and Loraine Povich.

December birthdays were celebrated by Wilma Mornack, Ethel Peshok, Gloria Hayes, Orlena D'Angelo and Dolores Stankovich. It was announced that member Mary DeLuca was celebrating her 100th birthday Jan. 8.

Doughnuts and coffee will be served at all Masses the weekend of Feb. 3.

Manderino gave her report on the bi-monthly project.

Memorabilia of family members in the armed services will be displayed at the February meeting.

Dorothy Jozwiak led members in the closing.

Winners of the Time, Treasure and Talent game were D'Angelo, Theresa DiPiazza, Jean Varganin and Pettko. The monetary gift was won by Jean Cornelia and door prizes by Congetta Dastalfo and Marsha Rocereta.

The next meeting will be held Feb. 12.

VALLEY CLUB NOTES

St. Barbara's Altar Guild

St. Barbara's Altar Guild of Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, Belle Vernon, convened 7 p.m. Jan. 8 in the social area of the church.

President Toni Costella called the meeting to order, opening the session with the prayer "O Heavenly King" and then led the flag salute.

Secretary Martha Zeli read minutes. Sophia Krill gave treasure accounts. Both reports were approved as presented. Correspondence was received from the Rev. John and Mildred Kluchko, Vicki and Gabriella Spina, Mary Sesco, and the John Daniels family.

The sunshine report comprised the following: cards were sent to Mary Lofink, Tony and Janet Miralles. Under religious articles, Mary Peffer reported on November and December sales. The Christmas bake sale and party were successful. It was noted that Kluchkos' retirement reception was a nice tribute with a great sendoff.

Election of officers for 2008 was held. Serving will be, President Toni Costella, Vice President Evelyn Sepitko, Secretary Martha Zeli and Treasurer Sophia Krill.

Committee chairwomen are: Religious articles, Mary Peffer; Sunshine, Janet Miralles; funeral repast, Martha Zeli; penny social tickets, Julia Urdinis; phone trees, Julia Urdinis; Christmas party, Pat Snodgrass; penny social kitchen, Mary Stephanie Merella.

The Rev. Sam Smolcic and his wife Marsha began his pastorate Sunday.

The Valentine penny social will be held 3 p.m. Feb. 10. Games will be played and prizes awarded. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

The next meeting will be held 6 p.m. Feb. 5, the annual Valentine Social with invited guests. All members will bring a special covered dish.

A special thank you was given to Sophia Daniels for baking the Communion bread for many years. She has retired her services from this special deed. The Rev. Sam Smolic will resume this deed.

Evelyn Grabana passed the new address for Mary Lofink, who is recuperating from surgery.

Martha Zeli won the attendance prize, and was the hostess for the evening. A light buffet was held.

Flowers graced the main table on Jan. 6, at a reception honoring retiring priest the Rev. John Kluchko. Kluchko served the parish for 41 years.

Catholic Schools Week events planned in NBV

St. Sebastian School in North Belle Vernon will celebrate Catholic Schools Week from Jan. 28-Feb. 1. The scheduled events include the following:

Jan. 25 - Family Fun Night beginning at 6 p.m. will be this year's kickoff for Catholic Schools Week.

Jan. 26 and 27 - Students will participate in the weekend Masses at the local Catholic churches. They will assume the roles of greeters, lectors, altar servers, and gift bearers.

Jan. 28 - Students will focus on community as they create placemats for Meals on Wheels and nursing homes, collect toiletries for a homeless shelter, and take part in synchronized prayer at 8:40 a.m. The students will also take part in a School Jeopardy challenge.

Jan. 29 - Teachers will lead the students in a Bible story activity and the PTG will sponsor an ice cream social as the school celebrates its students.

Jan. 30 - Faculty, staff, and students will take part in a Mass for Peace with Mayor Ed Lyons as the guest. There will also be a flag ceremony as the members of the school celebrate our nation.

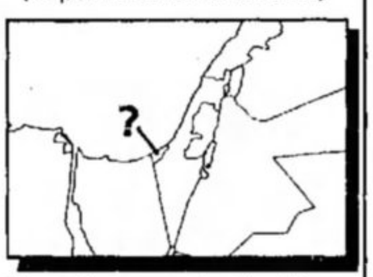
Jan. 31 - Local priests will speak to the students about religious life with vocations as the theme. The student council will conduct a Game Day for the students in the afternoon.

Feb. 1 - Faculty and students will enjoy a movie morning and then an early dismissal as they celebrate faculty, staff, and volunteers.

THE QUIZ

NEWSPLACE

(10 points for correct answer)



The main power plant in this Hamas-led Palestinian area was shut down on Sunday after Israel closed all the borders to this area. A U.N. aid group called the situation "dire" and said it will have to suspend food distribution to 860,000 Palestinians this week unless the blockade is lifted. Israel has imposed the harsh measures in response to rockets being fired daily into Israel. Israel recently rejected a truce offer from Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh. The European Union, which has been supplying aid to the stricken area, said it understands Israel's need to defend itself, but added that the closure amounts to "collective punishment" and should be lifted. Name this area.

WORLDSCOPE

(10 points for each correct answ

1-Former U.N. Secretary Gener ..?.. will meet with leaders in Kenya this week to attempt to bring an end to the crisis there.

2- Republican presidential canc date ..?.. won the Nevada cauc and currently has more delegat than any of his rivals.

3- Democrats are in a fierce battle for votes in the next primary contest to be held in ..?.. on Saturday.

4-President ..?.. of Pakistan beg an 8-day visit to Europe to shor up support for his government.

5-According to a new study, more than two cups of coffee a day may double the risk of ..?...

NEWSNAME

(15 points for correct answer,

I am the Chairman of the Federal Reserve. Last week I met with members of Congres who questioned me about the economy amid growing fears of recession. Although I did not agree that our economy is in a recession, I confirmed tha high energy and food prices, the housing crisis, and other factors are contributing to a serious economic slowdown. I said the government needs to quickly enact an economic stimulus package of at least $100 billlon to put money int the hands of lower and middl income people for immediate spending. Who am I?

PEOPLE/SPORTS

(5 points for each correct answer)

1. Who is Washington County's chief public defender?

2. Who is Monessen's city clerk/administrator?

3. Who is Monessen High School girls varsity' basketball top assistant coach?

4. Who is solicitor for the Ringgold School District?

5. Who is the first wrestler at Charleroi Area High School to have 100 wins?

YOUR SCORE: ©Knowledge Unlimited, Inc. 1-21-

91 to 100 points *TOP SCORE!* 71 to 80 points *Good*
81 to 90 points *Excellent* 61 to 70 points *Fair*

ANSWERS

NEWSPLACE: Gaza Strip
WORLDSCOPE: 1-Kofi Annan; 2-Mitt Romney; 3-South Carolina; 4-Pervez Musharraf; 5-miscarriage
NEWSNAME: Ben Bernanke
PEOPLE/SPORTS: 1-Glenn Alterio;2-Rosalie Nicksich; 3-Gina Naccarato; 4-Timothy Berggren; 5-Dave Grillo

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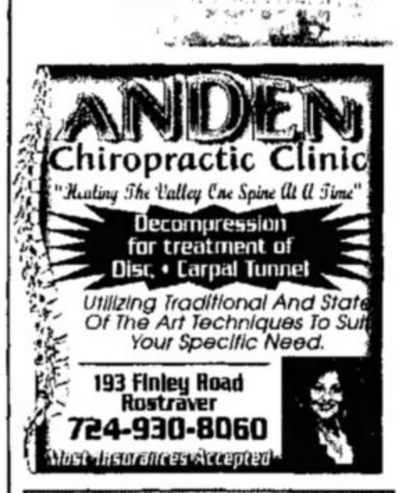
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CALENDAR WATCH

Wednesday

■ Free concert by Drew University's 36 Madison Avenue, Center in the Woods, California, 10:45 a.m.

■ Congressman John P. Murtha representative offers assistance with federal programs, Brownsville Borough Building, 9 a.m. to noon.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: T equals Q

"LZ FMV RJVOFCJ MOI O SBJSCWV LH VTBLSSLHX BW NLFM O HVRE, MV WBJVAP UVOHF BW FC WFLRE LF CBF." - OJFMBJ ECVWFAVJ

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

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4-1 (08)

TM Especially for kids and their families TM

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2008 Is an Election Year

On the Campaign Trail

President George W. Bush waves as he boards Marine One on the South Lawn of the White House.

In November, Americans will elect a new president of the United States.

President George W. Bush is in the last year of his second term. According to the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, he cannot run for president again.

An early start

Republican and Democratic candidates for president hit the campaign trail, or began their campaigns, as early as November 2006 — two years before the election! Last fall, candidates began spending a lot of time in states that hold early **primaries** or **caucuses**.

New Hampshire and Iowa are very proud of being the first primary and the first caucus held every four years.

A collection of campaign buttons from past elections.

Primary or caucus?

A **political party**, such as the Republican Party or Democratic Party, may hold a **primary election** in a state so that voters can choose one candidate for each party.

Some states hold **caucuses** instead of primaries. In these states, members of each political party have a meeting and choose the best candidates for that party.

If some candidates do not win enough votes or raise enough money, they might drop out of the race after the primaries.

Who can run?

A candidate for president must be:

- at least 35 years old
- a natural-born citizen of the U.S.
- a resident of the United States for 14 years.

Conventions

Most of the primaries and caucuses will be over by June. Then the parties have national meetings where representatives from each state announce which candidate they have chosen.

This is also when each candidate chooses a **running mate**, who would be vice president.

The Democratic Party will hold its convention, or meeting, Aug. 25-28 in Denver.

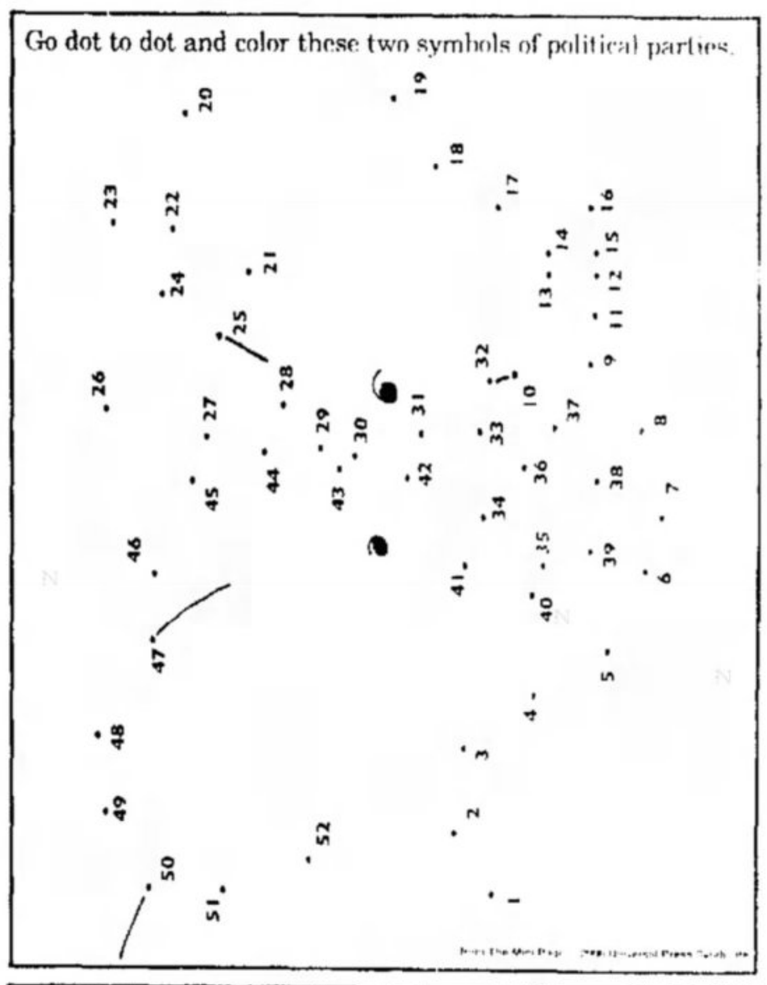
The Republican Party will meet Sept. 1-4 in Minneapolis.

On the road

This is a very important year for voters and for the candidates for president. For at least a year, candidates will spend almost every day traveling from city to city. They will try to win votes by meeting as many voters as they can, spreading their messages about how they would lead the country.

The Mini Page talked with a former candidate, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, and a journalist who has covered several campaigns about this busy season and life "on the road."

Go dot to dot and color these two symbols of political parties.



Rookie™ Rookie Cookie's Recipe

Easy Frozen Fruit Dessert

You'll need:

- 1 (21-ounce) can apricot pie filling
- 1 (10-ounce) container frozen strawberries, thawed
- 1 (20-ounce) can crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1 cup light whipped topping

What to do:

1. Mix all fruit in a large bowl.
2. Gently stir in whipped topping until just combined.
3. Pour into a square 9-inch-by-9-inch pan.
4. Freeze for 8 hours or until set.
5. Let sit at room temperature for 10 minutes before cutting into squares. Makes 16 squares.

from The Mini Page © 2008 Universal Press Syndicate

Meet Nicolas Cage

Nicolas Cage stars as Ben Gates in the movie "National Treasure: Book of Secrets." He has also starred in many other movies, including "Guarding Tess," "Peggy Sue Got Married" and "Moonstruck." He was the voice of Zoe in "The Ant Bully."

His early years were spent in Long Beach, Calif. When he was 12, he moved with his family to San Francisco. There he attended a special theater school.

He moved to Los Angeles when he was in high school. He got his first professional role, acting in a TV movie, while still a high school student.

Cage, 43, was born Nicolas Coppola. He is the nephew of director Francis Ford Coppola and actress Talia Shire. His father taught literature, and his mother was a dancer and choreographer.

Nicolas took the name "Cage" so that he could become a success on his own, without relying on his famous last name. He collects comic books.

from The Mini Page © 2008 Universal Press Syndicate

TM Gus Goodsport's Report

Supersport: Paul Pierce

Height: 6-7 Birthdate: 10-13-77 Weight: 235

Throughout their championship history, the Boston Celtics have produced a galaxy of all-star players. Among them stands Paul Pierce, who is still shining in his ninth NBA season.

The durable, dazzling forward has averaged about 21 points, 5 rebounds and 5 assists while helping the Celtics get off to a jolting 26-3 start this year.

Pierce has been selected for five NBA All-Star games. In eight different seasons he has averaged more than 20 points per game. He put up a career-high 50 points against Cleveland last season.

Before playing in the NBA, Pierce was an All-American at the University of Kansas, where he majored in crime and delinquency studies.

Away from basketball, Pierce, who is single, likes to listen to music and watch TV. He lists tennis as his favorite sport other than hoops.

But Pierce is at his best on a basketball court, making the New Boston Garden rock like old times.

Covering the Candidates

The Mini Page spoke with Jill Zuckman, a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune* who is covering this year's presidential election. She told us what it's like to report on the candidates during primary season and beyond.

Campaign veteran

Jill Zuckman

This is Jill's fourth presidential campaign. She said primary season is very different from **general election** season, when just one candidate from each party remains.

During the primaries, the candidates concentrate on just a few states. Most reporters rent cars and travel from event to event in a certain state, covering several candidates. For example, Jill was planning to stay in New Hampshire beginning in December through the primary election there on Jan. 8.

After the New Hampshire primary, many campaigns have airplanes that carry the candidate, the support staff and the reporters, or **press corps**, covering that candidate.

Jill covered Sen. John Kerry in his presidential campaign in 2004.

The Mini Page asked her if it's hard to find new ideas for stories.

"Usually one candidate is attacking the other," she said, so she might focus on that in her reporting. "I also look for features (longer articles in the newspaper) to do while going along."

On the ground

When the plane lands at an airport, the candidate and his or her staff ride in cars. One or two buses take reporters to each event. Everyone spends the night in the same city. Jill said campaign workers reserve hotel rooms ahead of time so that reporters don't have to worry about it. The reporter's newspaper, magazine or TV or radio station pays the travel expenses.

Sometimes a reporter will need to go home for a few days, "to do laundry and pay bills," Jill said. In that case, another reporter from the same paper or station might come and follow the candidate.

Well-fed media

"Campaigns overfeed reporters," Jill said. She told us that every time the plane takes off, flight attendants serve a meal. There might be several flights a day! At most events, there is a buffet table full of food in the room where the reporters write their stories.

"It's hard to eat healthy. You have to be very disciplined," she said.

Filing stories gets easier

Reporters on the road used to type articles and read them over the phone to an editor. Jill sends her stories to the *Chicago Tribune* by wireless laptop.

Life on the Campaign Trail

Sen. John Kerry was the Democratic candidate for president during the 2004 election. He ran against President George W. Bush, who was an **incumbent**, or a person already holding the office.

Sen. John Kerry

The Mini Page interviewed the Massachusetts senator about life during primary season.

Where and what do you eat?

Sen. Kerry: I ate a lot on the run. So many peanut butter and jelly sandwiches! But the best times were when we'd be in some small town and we could sneak into a little diner and relax and just have dinner as a staff and swap stories.

Do you have time for exercise?

Sen. Kerry: It's hard. You have to really make time. Sometimes I could get an exercise bike for my hotel room, and sometimes I could rent a bike and go for a nice, relaxing ride and really get my blood flowing. That was always a terrific way to really see the places we were visiting.

Who manages your schedule?

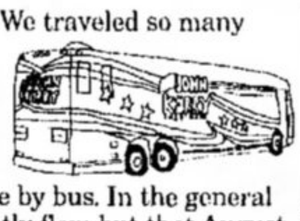
Sen. Kerry: I had a great team of **schedulers** who kept the trains running on time — to this day I believe they have the hardest job on a campaign.

How do you avoid getting sick?

Sen. Kerry: I remember before the Iowa caucuses, I had a terrible cough — but there was no such thing as stopping. I used to lose my voice a lot — my wife used to give me a thermos of very hot tea with lemon and honey and ginger to drink on the bus between events. It sure helped.

Do you travel mostly by plane or by bus or train?

Sen. Kerry: We traveled so many different ways! During the primaries, we traveled all over Iowa and New Hampshire by bus. In the general election we mostly flew, but that August we traveled from coast to coast mostly by train. We even took a ferry once in Michigan.

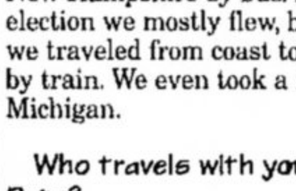


Who travels with you? Family? Pets?

Sen. Kerry: One of the best things about campaigning was traveling with my wife, Teresa, and my daughters Alex and Vanessa. Those bus rides were a lot of fun — we would play cards and listen to music and have great talks. I wish my dog could have come, too!

Do you get tired of smiling?

Sen. Kerry: No, the truth is you meet so many interesting people along the way. If you're not able to smile you shouldn't be in this business. The people are what make it fun.



Sen. Kerry relaxes by playing catch with a staff member during the 2004 campaign season.

What do you do to relieve stress?

Sen. Kerry: Exercise helps, but family helps most. My daughters used to try and make me laugh anytime I got grouchy. I also played a lot of card games with my staff — we became like a family in many ways.

How do you get your clothes clean?

Sen. Kerry: It's not easy! I think in Iowa I wore the same navy blue blazer for three months straight! Sometimes I'd take a whole bag of laundry home when we got a day off, but usually I'd wait until we had a hotel where we could do laundry right there on the spot. And sometimes our secret was to find a department store and buy a few extra shirts.

Do you ever forget what city you're in?

Sen. Kerry: There are a lot of mornings when you wake up in a hotel room that seems just like the one the night before, and it takes a while to remember where you are.

Next week, The Mini Page is about the importance of good communications.

The Mini Page thanks Liz Richardson, deputy press secretary to Sen. Kerry, and Jill Zuckman, national correspondent for the Chicago Tribune, for help with this story.

The Mini Page Staff

Betty Debnam - Contributing Editor Lisa Tarry - Managing Editor Lucy Lien - Associate Editor Wendy Daley - Artist

TM MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Robert: How do lions order their meat cooked?
Carol: Medium-roar!

Alexander: Why does a lion kneel before he pounces?
Winton: Because he is preying!

Kenneth: Can you name an Egyptian queen?
Kevin: Leopatra!

TM Basset Brown The News Hound's

Primaries

TRY 'N FIND

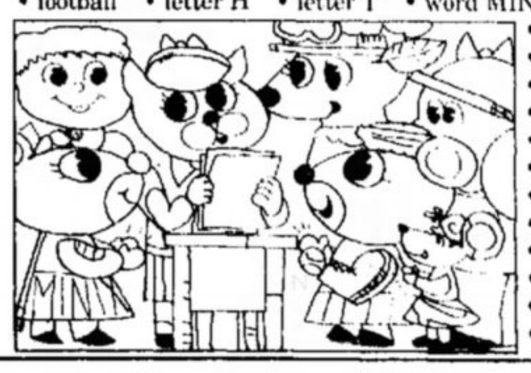
Words that remind us of primary season are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: CAMPAIGN, ELECTION, PRESIDENT, DEMOCRAT, NOVEMBER, WIN, REPUBLICAN, CANDIDATE, PARTY, PRIMARY, CAUCUS, MEET, PRESS, CORPS, AIRPLANE, BUS, FOOD, EXERCISE, VOTES, PLAN, STRESS.

D O O F K F E T A D I D N A C
E M E E T X A I R P L A N E O
M R E B M E V O N B N A I P R
O V S S E R T S S E R P W X P
C O Q Y J C A U C U S I B U S
R T C T R I F L F C I I O N V
A E P R E S I D E N T G N I W
T S K A R E P U B L I C A N L
C A M P A I G N P R I M A R Y

Mini Spy . . .

Mini Spy is giving a political speech. See if you can find:

- football
- letter H
- letter T
- word MINI
- key
- ruler
- candle
- number 3
- lima bean
- ant
- leaf
- paint brush
- letter C
- ice skate
- heart
- lady's shoe
- baseball
- toothbrush



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MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
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5 LINES • 3 DAYS
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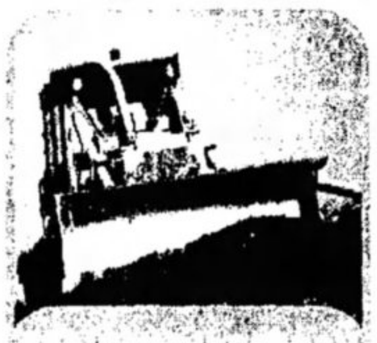
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday



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SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

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1090 Educational/Instruction
1100 Information
1110 Business Opportunity
1120 Situations
1130 Day Care

LEGAL - 2000
2000 Criminal Notices
2010 Estate Notices
2020 Bid Notices
2040 Civil Notices
2030 Meeting Notices
2050 Corporate Notices
2060 Government Notices

REAL ESTATE - 3000
SALES
3000 Open Houses
3005 For Sale - Alleg. Co. N.
3010 For Sale - Alleg. Co. S.
3015 For Sale - Alleg. Co. E.
3020 For Sale - Alleg. Co. W.
3025 For Sale - Pittsburgh/City
3030 For Sale - Armstrong
3035 For Sale - Beaver
3040 For Sale - Butler
3045 For Sale - Fayette
3050 For Sale - Green
3055 For Sale - Indiana
3056 For Sale - Mon Valley
3060 For Sale - Washington
3065 For Sale - Westmoreland
3070 Condos
3075 Lots/Acreage
3080 Mobile Homes/Spaces
3085 Farms
3090 Manufactured Homes
RENT
3500 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. N.
3505 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. S.
3510 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. E.
3515 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. W.
3520 Apt./Rent - Pittsburgh/City
3525 Apt./Rent - Armstrong
3530 Apt./Rent - Beaver
3535 Apt./Rent - Butler
3540 Apt./Rent - Fayette
3545 Apt./Rent - Green
3550 Apt./Rent - Indiana
3551 Apt./Rent - Mon Valley
3555 Apt./Rent - Washington
3560 Apt./Rent - Westmoreland
3565 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. N.
3570 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. S.
3575 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. E.
3580 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. W.
3585 Houses/Rent - Pittsburgh/City
3590 Houses/Rent - Armstrong
3595 Houses/Rent - Beaver
3600 Houses/Rent - Butler
3605 Houses/Rent - Fayette
3610 Houses/Rent - Greene
3615 Houses/Rent - Indiana
3617 Houses/Rent - Mon Valley
3620 Houses/Rent - Washington
3625 Houses/Rent - Westmoreland
3630 Apts./Complex
3635 Sales/Rent
3640 Rooms/Rent
3645 Mobile Rentals
3650 Wanted Rent

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE - 3700
3700 Commercial - Rent
3705 Commercial - Sales
3710 Industrial - Rent
3715 Industrial - Sales
3720 Investment Property
3725 Wanted Rent

ANNOUNCEMENTS - 4000
4000 Adoption
4010 Cemetery Lots
4020 Entertainment
4030 Financial
4040 Home Improvements
4050 Insurance
4060 Legal Services
4070 Lost & Found
4080 Memoriams
4090 Miscellaneous
4100 Personals
4110 Personal Services
4120 Thanks
4130 Tickets

MERCHANDISE - 5000
5000 Apparel & Jewelry
5010 Appliances
5020 Articles
5030 Auctions
5040 Building Material
5050 Business Equipment
5060 Computers
5070 Electronics
5080 Exercise Equipment
5090 Farm Equipment
5100 Feed
5110 Food
5120 Fuel
5130 Furniture
5140 Garden
5150 Home Health Care
5160 Livestock
5170 Machinery/Hardware
5180 Musical
5190 Restaurant Equipment
5200 Top Soil
5210 Trade/Swap!
5220 Wanted To Buy

GARAGE SALES - 5300
5300 Flea Markets
5310 Garage Sales

PETS - 5500
5500 Adoptions
5510 Pet In Memoriams
5520 Animal Shelters
5530 Animal Shows
5540 Birds
5550 Cats
5560 Dogs - AKC/Purebred
5570 Dogs - Mixed
5580 Horses
5585 Pets - Mixed
5590 Kennels/Boarding
5600 Lost & Found
5610 Pet Supplies/Services

AUTOMOTIVE - 6000
6000 Travel
6010 Recreational Vehicles
6020 Motorcycles
6030 Trucks
6040 Sport Utility
6050 Parts & Accessories
6060 Vans
6070 Leasing/Rentals
6080 Auto Sales
6090 Antique/Classic
6100 Wanted To Buy
6110 Auto Service Dealers

1000/GENERAL

BAR HELP for local club. Mature, responsible. Hours vary. Mail replies 101 W. Main St. Monongahela PA 15063

BUS PERSON Lunchtime 11:30am-3:30pm & Bus person evenings & weekends 5pm-10pm. Must apply in person at Rego's Restaurant, 601 McKean Ave., Charleroi

CIRCULATION ASSISTANTS
Opportunities to Join a Winning Team!

The Tribune-Review Publishing Company has open positions for Part-time Circulation Assistants.
Currently an exciting opportunity exists for the right individual. A chance to earn, learn and advance.

- Steady Part-time, approx. 30 hrs./wk
- Early morning hours
- Delivery & customer service skills necessary
- Work Independently
- Competitive wage & auto allowance

If interested, call Ken Planinsek at
724-850-2826
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

COOK- experienced lunch- 4 hrs./day. Call or stop by for application. Teddy's Tavern, 1305 Axton St., Belle Vernon 724-929-5971

DOWN ROUTE DRIVER
Part-time position, approximately 25 hrs./week. Assist district managers with the delivery of newspapers to subscribers on routes that temporarily have no carrier. Must possess valid PA driver's license and reliable vehicle. Hourly rate plus mileage. Applications available at The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen PA 15062 or email your resume to lhutson@tribweb.com

EXPERIENCED AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN or PAINTER
Full-time
Call 724-239-4500

LOCAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Has openings for individuals to work steady night shift. Must be able to work on fast-paced assembly line. Qualifications include, but not limited to: 1) Superior eye-hand coordination 2) Drug-free 3) Past assembly line experience 4) Able to demonstrate excellent past work attendance record. Equal opportunity employer. Send resume to Box 891 c/o The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC
Accepting applications for applicants with mechanical backgrounds. Knowledge of hydraulics, pneumatics and pump repair. Convenient Mon Valley location. Steady daylight shift, open to overtime when needed. Experienced auto mechanics welcome to apply.
1-800-485-6502
M-F 9am-4pm
EOE/MF

1000/GENERAL

HAIRSTYLIST
Great opportunity. Full-time or part-time. Guaranteed salary plus incentives. Paid vacation & holidays. Benefits. FREE continuing education.
Fantastic Sams
Belle Vernon
412-302-8661 or
724-929-9550

MH/MR Support Staff
Laurel Highlands Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, is currently seeking part-time and full-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton, and Elizabeth areas. No experience is necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri., 9-3pm. 412-825-9141

MODEL SEARCH
Have The Look?
Men, women, children, teens, infants, 6 mos. and up for TV, advertising, fashion, credit! Placed models on Rescue 911, People Magazine, many others. Apply in person.
SUN., JAN. 27, 2008
at 6:30 pm Sharp
Holiday Inn
I-70 & Rt. 51
Belle Vernon
If under age 18, must be with parent.
VAN ENTERPRISES
PA licensed, bonded
since 1973

NOTICE TO READERS:
While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

OFFICE MANAGER for local excavating company. Full-time w/ benefits. Fax resumes to 724-379-8235.

SUPERINTENDENT
California Area School District (Washington Co.) Appointment on/about July 1, 2008. Enrollment approximately 1010, grades K-12. Requirements: PA letter of eligibility; strong leader with ability to interact effectively with all staff members and demonstrate a sincere interest in the educational growth and achievement of all students; have demonstrated professional ethics; have exp. in fiscal responsibility, cost-effectiveness techniques and budgeting, a high level of technological literacy and demonstrate skills in long range planning. Salary negotiable and will be commensurate with exp. Send letter of interest, detailed resume, PA letter of Eligibility, PA application, transcripts, five reference letters and Acts 34, 114 and 151 clearances (within one year) to: California Area School District, Superintendent's Search, P.O. Box 697, California, PA 15419. Deadline: March 20, 2008.

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAD? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

1025/DRIVERS

CLASS A CDL Truck Driver & Mechanic. Local general contractor seeking Class A CDL Truck Driver with mechanic experience. Must have minimum 10 years experience hauling heavy construction equipment & mechanic work. Excellent salary & benefits. EEO Employer. Reply to: Lone Pine Construction, Inc., 83 Lusk Rd., Bentleyville, PA 15314

LIFT VAN DRIVERS & Taxi Drivers. Must have clean drivers license. Apply at: Tri County Access, 1001 Meldon Ave., Donora

Van & Bus Drivers
Matthews Bus Company seeks individuals who are people-oriented & committed to safety for Van & School Bus Driving positions. Pre-Employment drug testing & fingerprinting required. Training provided for those seeking CDL/School Bus License. For application or more information please call: 412-384-8810. Matthews Bus Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

1040/MEDICAL

Highlands Hospital

Manager Respiratory Therapy
Respiratory care practitioner with experience in both clinical & administrative functions. Will manage cardiopulmonary department, oversee operation of newly opened Sleep Lab, and provide respiratory therapy services to both inpatients and outpatients.

Assistant Director Rehab
Licensed PT to assist Director with coordination of rehab services (including speech and OT) and on-site fitness center. Will also provide clinical PT services to both inpatients and outpatients.

Diabetes Program Support
RN or RD with experience in Diabetes Education.

Mental Health-RN
For inpatient care setting. Related experience or a sincere interest in developing mental health nursing skills required.

Nurse Practitioner
CRNP with mental health and/or research experience. Must be independent worker and detail oriented.

RNs - ICU, ER
Requires critical care training, related experience preferred.

Respiratory Care Practitioner
Registered or certified respiratory care practitioner.

Aerobics Instructor
Certified aerobics instructor. Will teach 4th through 12th grade students during school hours; hours and schedule will vary.

Full-time and part-time positions include full benefit package. Casual and "Weekender" positions also available. Free on-site parking. On-site fitness center! Easy location just off Rt. 119S between Greensburg & Uniontown. Send resume or call for application.

Human Resources Dept.
Highlands Hospital
401 E. Murphy Ave.
Connellsville, PA 15425
724-626-2314 EOE

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, YOU DON'T NEED IT. CLASSIFIEDS

1040/MEDICAL

NURSES AIDE 3-11 shift only $7.25/hr. Apply in person. Country Care Manor, Fayette City 724-326-4009

Registered Nurses
We have immediate full-time, part-time and casual positions open to cover visits in Washington County and surrounding areas. Must be licensed in PA. Home Health experience preferred, one year experience as a staff nurse in an acute care setting. Please send resume' referencing the job title. We offer a competitive wage, generous benefit package including 401K and profit sharing. Sign on bonus for full-time RNs.

Home Visit Mental Health Nurse
RN licensed in PA. One year experience in an acute care setting. Home care experience preferred. Two years Psychiatric experience required. We have a full-time, part-time or casual position available to cover visits in the Monongahela and surrounding areas.

MEDI HOME HOSPICE
Fax: 412-824-0849
PAJobs@msa-corp.com
1-888-245-6351
EOE

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS
Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of Tribune-Review Publishing Company.
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available.
Please call 412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

Looking for a new best friend?
Find one in PETS!
CLASSIFIEDS
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

Looking for a new best friend?

1040/MEDICAL

REGISTERED NURSE SUPERVISOR
Long-term care facility accepting applications for FT/PT all shifts.
Competitive starting wage, insurance benefits, 401K & vacation/holiday package.
Convenient location (off Routes 43 & 88).
For more information call 724-310-1111.
Send resume to:
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 STOOPS DRIVE
MONONGAHELA, PA 15063
OR VISIT US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS
EOE

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

CARRIER WANTED
BELLE VERNON AREA
100's Kelly
100's Lee
100-200's Orchard
27 Papers
Mon.-Sat.
Call 724-684-2648

CARRIER WANTED
CHARLEROI
Char House Highrise
43 Customers
Mon.-Sat.
No Collections
Call 724-684-2648

CARRIER WANTED
Belle Vernon (Lynnwood)
- 300's Center
- 200's- 300's Delmont
- 200's Marston
-34 Papers
-Mon.-Sat.

Call 724-684-2468

CARRIER WANTED
Belle Vernon (Lynnwood)
- 500's Fayette St.
- 200's- 300's Otto St.
-25 Papers
-Mon.-Sat.

Call 724-684-2468

MONESSEN ROUTES OPEN
Athalia, Dennis
31 Papers
No Collecting
Call 724-684-2647

MONESSEN ROUTE AVAILABLE
Coolidge Ave.
Mellon Ave.
No Collecting
Only 13 Papers
Call 724-684-2647

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Tribune Review
✓ California
✓ Bentleyville
✓ Ellsworth Area
Call Jason at 724-272-4437 or Bill at 412-523-2306

SPEERS ROUTE OPEN
24 Papers
Davidson Dr.
No Collecting
Call 724-684-2647

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Crosser, Hester M.
ESTATE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in the estate of HESTER M. CROSSER, deceased, late of Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, the Register of Wills has granted letters testamentary to the executor named below. All persons having claims or demands against said estate are requested to present the same to the executor or the attorney named below and all persons indebted to the decedent are requested to make payment without delay to the executor named below.

Charles S. Jarvis
Executor
6154 Darby Road Apt. 2
Roanoke, VA 24012

Mark E. Ramsler, Esquire
Attorney at Law
823 Broad Avenue
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
1/8,15,22

Olson, Regina
ESTATE NOTICE

The Estate of Regina C. Olson, deceased, late of the Peters Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

Letters Testamentary upon the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to those indebted thereto to make immediate payment and to those having claims or demands to present them for settlement.

Michelle E. Day, Executrix
c/o 101 North Main St.
Greensburg, PA 15601

George A. Conti, Jr., Esquire
101 North Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-836-3188
1/8,15,22

Swart, William E.
EXECUTOR NOTICE

Letters Testamentary on the estate of WILLIAM E. SWART, Court Term No. 63-07-1333, late of Monongahela, Washington County, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Washington County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated for settlement.

JAMES W. HAINES, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1202 WEST MAIN ST.
MONONGAHELA, PA 15063

Mary Lou Smuzinick, Executrix
106 Caroline Avenue
Monongahela, PA 15063
1/22,29,2/5

SHOP IN YOUR PJS. 24 HOURS A DAY. TRIBCLASSIFIEDS.COM TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

2020/BID NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

The Bentworth School District is soliciting bids for the rekeying of the high school and elementary center. Sealed bids will be accepted until Monday, February 4, 2008 at 11 p.m. and will be publicly opened at that time. The front of the sealed bid should be marked "REKEYING".

Bids may be awarded at the February 19, 2008 regular meeting of the Board of Education.

Specification may be obtained by calling 724-239-2861, extension 272.

The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts of bids.

Debra J. Babirad
Board Secretary
1/15,22,29

2030/MEETING NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Monongahela Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 6, 2008, at 5:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 449 West Main Street, Monongahela, for review and recommendations for approval of The City of Monongahela and The Borough of New Eagle Joint Comprehensive Plan. Anyone wishing to express their opinions for or against the Comprehensive Plan should attend the hearing.

City of Monongahela
Planning Commission
1/22,29

2060/GOVERNMENT NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is interested in identifying the availability of potential vendors capable of providing legal assistance services to persons 60 years of age and older, and their spouses, who reside in Fayette, Greene and Washington Counties. The term of the service shall be July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. The successful vendor will be expected to provide a minimum of 8,000 hours of legal assistance and deliver the service from at least one accessible location in each county. Interested applicants must write for proposal material. Letters should be addressed to Leslie Grenfell, Executive Director, Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc., 305 Chamber Plaza, Charleroi, PA 15022-1607 and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on January 25, 2008.
1/18,19,21,22,23

LOOKING TO MOVE? REAL ESTATE EVERY SUNDAY. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

4000/ADOPTION

ADOPTION
Adoption is a courageous decision for you. We promise a life of love, safety, security to your precious newborn. Exp. pd. Laurie & Martin 1-866-202-4737 X 1025.

4070/LOST & FOUND

FIND SOMETHING? LOSE SOMETHING? Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 4 days at no charge. Call 724-684-5200.

4100/PERSONALS

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE
No-Fault Uncontested
Reisman & Davis, Pgh
-No Court Appearance
or Travel To Office
-Free Information
1-800-486-4070 24Hrs

ALONE & PREGNANT?
A Confidential Caring Friend
Free Pregnancy Test
LIFELINE OF S.W. PA
Call Hotline 24 Hrs.
724-489-9020

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

HARLEY DAVIDSON leather & wool jacket XL, excellent condition. $136.00 724-872-0151.

MEN'S leather jacket size 40 regular (Sears Leather Shop). $50.00 724-684-4674.

5010/APPLIANCES

MICROWAVE Roper under the cabinet, black, like new, $60. 724-684-4596.

5020/ARTICLES

STEEL LOCK BOX 11"x8"x4", 3 keys, fire proof, $30 or best offer. 724-684-4674.

5030/AUCTIONS

ESTATE AUCTION
Wed., Jan. 23, 6pm
Strickler Auction Service, 234 Main St., Fayette City. Coins: Silver Dollars, 200 Walking Halves & Franklins, Indian Cents: 1834, 1843 Half Dollars, 1853, 1903, 1916 Quarters, 1917 Large Bill, Five MS 1957A Silver Certificates in Consecutive Numbers, Red Seal MS Five Dollar Bills, 1839 Dime. Estate Jewelry: 10 14 Karat Gold Rings & Chains & Earrings, French Ring, Pearl Necklaces, Sterling, Gold perfume sprayer, costume jewelry, 100 set of old Salt & Peppers, McCoy & Shawnee cookie jars, Nazi coins, buttons, metal & Hitler coin, Octagon barrel 22 rifle, Hammer shotgun, muzzle loader, Cut & Candlewick & Westmoreland glass, Singer treadle, 6 leg table, 1960 26" boys bike, Occupied Japan, old teddy bear, needle point, JFK papers, boxed small appliances, mantle man 'o' war ship, Japan dish sets, USA oriental area rugs, floor lamp, cookie cutters, Marx tank, old toys, Xmas & much more! Don Strickler, Auctioneer AU3581-L. Phone 724-326-4050.

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAD? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

NEWSPAPERS • TELEVISION • RADIO • INTERNET • MAGAZINES

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

REAL ESTATE

3060/FOR SALE/WASH.

CALL FOR DETAILS

DONORA 2 bedroom brick ranch in peaceful neighborhood. Detached garage. Very well maintained. Must see. $57,500.

NEW EAGLE Well maintained 2 bedroom mobile home in Crestview Estates. Front & rear porches under roof. $18,500

MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom brick ranch in great neighborhood. Finished basement. Call today for appt.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-348-7470

NEW LISTINGS

1 Fallowfield Twp. is home for this nice 2 bedroom ranch with carport, 1st floor laundry and full basement. Central air and Home Warranty too! Low $60's

2 435 High Street, Mon City for this 3 bedroom 2 story on 100x100 lot with many new updates. Includes kitchen, carpeting, windows. Great starter. Priced to sell $60's

NORTHWOOD REALTY SERVICES
201 Associates
724-929-1370

PITTSBURGHLIVE.COM
NEWS
CLASSIFIEDS
SPORTS
ENTERTAINMENT
THE TOTAL WORLD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

CALL FOR DETAILS

CHARLEROI Charming 2 bedroom, garage, built-in bookshelves, sits on 1 ½ lots. Priced to sell $59,900

BELLE VERNON Beautiful brick ranch, 2 bedrooms, totally updated, fantastic back yard, garage. Must See. $139,900.

CHARLEROI Wow! "BOGO" with this 3 bedroom home, live in one, rent one. Give it a look. $76,900

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-483-3004

CALL FOR DETAILS

CHARLEROI 2 bedroom brick ranch in Fallowfield Twp. on over 1 acre. Beautiful sun room and updated kitchen. Call for more details! Asking $114,900

ROSTRAVER TWP. Beautiful residential lot in nice small plan of homes. No builder choice restrictions. Easy access to Rt. 51 and I-70. All underground utilities! Make an offer! $35,000

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-929-2180

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

*** DONORA ***

1 Bedroom Bungalow
Clean
Nice Neighborhood
-AND-
2 Bedroom Apartment
724-746-3997

CHARLEROI- 2 bedroom, 1 bath $325+ utilities & security. Call 724-255-9485.

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI 1 bedroom cute, newly remodeled, all utilities incl. except electric. $450. Call 412-583-6829.

CHARLEROI

1 & 2 bedroom apts. for rent w/intercom, wall to wall carpet, washer/dryer. $325-$400. Security deposit. No pets.
724-292-1189
724-396-1140

CHARLEROI 2nd floor, $375 rent inc. heat, water & sewage. Living room, kitchen, 1 bedroom, inc. stove, refrigerator. 724-489-9535.

CHARLEROI 3 bedroom, laundry hookups, heat, water, sewage inc. $575. 724-518-1677

DONORA- well kept 2 bedroom, ½ duplex. $425 incl. some utilities. 724-433-8707

DONORA APTS.
724-379-5265
1 Bedroom Apartments.
HUD Assisted For Those Who Qualify
EQUAL HOUSING

N CHARLEROI- unfurnished 1 bedroom, completely remodeled. Private off-street parking. $380+ utilities. 1 month security deposit & references. No pets. Call 412-953-8062

NEW EAGLE 1 bedroom, appliances, no pets. Security deposit. $375+ electric. Call 724-554-6534.

3560/APT-RENT/WMLD.

LOWER BELLE VERNON large 2 bedroom, clean, no pets. Heat, garbage inc. $375. 724-323-7161

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3560/APT-RENT/WMLD.

BELLE VERNON 2 Apartments for rent. (1) 2 bedroom and bath $500 mo. plus utilities. (1) 1 bedroom and bath $425 mo. plus utilities. Security deposit. No pets. Both very nice and clean as a whistle! Call for more details!

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-929-2180

3561/APT-RENT/OTHER

MONONGAHELA

Modern 1 bedroom apartment. Air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, elevator, intercom, laundry, storage, security. $350 + electric. Call 412-257-0902.

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI- 2 houses for rent, 4 bedroom & 2 bedroom, both have garages. Section 8 ok. Call 724-516-5002

DONORA- 2 bedroom house for rent. $400 plus utilities. Call 724-872-5565.

MONONGAHELA 2 bedroom, central air, 2 car garage. $550+ utilities & security deposit. Call 724-258-5813

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

BELLE VERNON 4 bedroom, 2 bath, c/a. New everything! Nice area. $800+ 724-309-7678.

BELLE VERNON- 2 bedroom, 1 bath, detached garage. No pets. $650+ security & references. Call 724-835-1739

MONESSEN- 2 bedroom house. $400 month + utilities. No pets. Call 724-736-2771.

MONESSEN 2 bedroom, yard, built-in stove, 2 baths up & down. $450 + utilities & security. 724-267-4377.

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

MONESSEN 3 bedroom Cape Cod, mint cond., nice yard, good area. Pets ok. $650+. 724-309-7678.

N. BELLE VERNON- 1 bedroom duplex, 2 story, completely remodeled. No pets. $450+ electric & security. 724-929-0100

3626/HSE-RENT/OTHER

BELLE VERNON Lynnwood area, corner of Reed & Fayette St. Very clean executive type townhouse, 2 bedroom, 2 baths, all appliances, carpet, fireplace. $650. Exclusively Rentals. 724-483-7368.

DONORA & BELLE VERNON (Westmoreland) clean single family homes for rent. Sec. 8 ok. 724-322-4114.

3700/COMMERCIAL RE

DONORA Church Building for rent immed. Good cond. w/equipped kitchen & dining area. 412-969-2661.

MODERN OFFICE OR RETAIL SPACE
BELLE VERNON
719 Broad Ave., air conditioning, 1,500 sq. ft., off street parking.
MONONGAHELA
215 Chess St. 2,000 sq. ft. Call 412-257-0902.

STOREROOM on 1st Floor
Includes 2 apts. upstairs with separate utilities. LOCATED:
McKean Ave., Charleroi
$19,500
724-366-4946
or 724-438-4461

3720/INVESTMENT PROPERTY

(1) 2 UNIT near Mounds. (1) 3 unit near MEC, many updates. Monongahela. 412-580-8400

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS. TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

5030/AUCTIONS

SECOND ESTATE AUCTION
Sat., Jan. 26, 9:30am
221 Church St., Brownsville, PA. TOOLS: lot of hand tools, 8 cylinder motor & stand, Acetylene outfit, Craftsman radial saw, pipe dies, testers, stock of iron, chain, misc., electric cords. CAMPING/FISHING: tents, tarps, lot of fishing rods, reels, spinners, tackle boxes, Cabella creels, vests, sinkers, rod cases & pole stands. RELOADING: reloading equipment, brass, shells, primers, dies, lot of powder, line, shells, cross bow, arrows, Thompson center bull barrels, 355 & 223 Remington. KNIVES: approximately 58 pen, fishing & hunting knives. Due to large inventory, two auction rings will be used part of day. Terms: cash/approved checks. Ann Bane Estate
Auctioneers
Rittenhouse Auction Company, RY136L
724-438-0581
www.rittenhouseauction.com

EVERYTHING YOU WANT AND NEED
AUTOMOTIVE
REAL ESTATE
HELP WANTED
CLASSIFIEDS
WORK!
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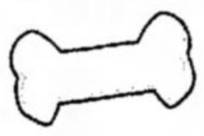

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ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $14,675
DAVIES DISCOUNT -300
COMMERCIAL REBATE -300
FORD REBATES -3,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$179
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$10,857
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. 15,510
DAVIES DISCOUNT -653
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,000*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$111
2008 FORD FOCUS
$11,231
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $18,270
DAVIES DISCOUNT -339
COMMERCIAL REBATE -500
FORD REBATES -3,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$199
2008 FORD F-150
$13,184
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $16,405
DAVIES DISCOUNT -611
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$159
2008 FORD FUSION
$13,586
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $19,595
DAVIES DISCOUNT -909
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -2,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$249
2007 FORD MUSTANG
$13,763
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $20,970
DAVIES DISCOUNT -907
COMMERCIAL REBATE -500
FORD REBATES -3,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$108
2008 RANGER SUPERCAB 4X4
$14,200
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $19,300
DAVIES DISCOUNT -600
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$156
2008 FORD ESCAPE
$17,787
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $24,595
DAVIES DISCOUNT -2,656
COMMERCIAL REBATE -300
FORD REBATES -2,250*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$359
2008 FORD E-150 CARGO VAN
$19,483
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $26,025
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,043
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -2,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
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Only $159/24 months**
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DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,370
MISC. REBATES -1,050
FORD REBATES -1,000
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$18,125*
Top Rated Crash Efficiency!
2008 FOCUS 3 DOOR
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $14,695
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COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,500
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$9,665*
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$18,999
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $27,365
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,366
COMMERCIAL REB. -500
FORD REBATES -4,000*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$205
2008 F-150 SUPERCAB 4X4
$20,200
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $28,385
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,385
COMMERCIAL REBATE -300
FORD REBATES -4,000*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$239
2008 FORD F-250 4X4
$20,285
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $28,485
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,710
COMMERCIAL REB. -1,000
FORD REBATES -3,000*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$389
2008 FORD F-350
$21,220
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $28,785
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,065
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -3,600*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$249
2008 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4
$21,300
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $27,365
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,565
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$226
2008 TAURUS X
$22,504
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $31,320
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,816
COMMERCIAL REBATE -500
FORD REBATES -4,000*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$224
2008 F-150 SUPERCREW 4X4
$23,181
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $28,640
DAVIES DISCOUNT -1,959
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$239
2008 TAURUS AWD LIMITED
$26,444
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $34,325
DAVIES DISCOUNT -2,081
COMMERCIAL REBATE -300
FORD REBATES -3,000*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$298
2008 F-250 CREW CAB 4X4
$28,218
ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. $34,730
DAVIES DISCOUNT -2,012
COLLEGE GRAD -500
FORD REBATES -1,500*
CASH OR TRADE -2,500
$359
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6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

She is Sweet
She is Neat
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Now She is a Teen as She Turns 13
1-22-08
Love Always, Mom, Dad, Mitchell, Kyle, Baba, Pap and Kipper

ASTRO GRAPH

Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday **AQUARIUS** January 20 through February 18

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 2008

You will be much more ambitious and enterprising in the year ahead than you have ever been before. This will serve you well, and you could simultaneously realize much success in not just one area but two.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Usually you are a pretty independent individual who is quite capable of thinking things through carefully and honestly, so don't allow your companions to unduly influence your opinions in ways you will regret.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- You had better personally supervise each and every phase of any special services that you are having performed for you. This will be especially important if the workers who are doing the job are new to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Guard against being overly possessive of those close to you, because if you are, they will do just the opposite of what you want just to prove they are their own people.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- It is to your advantage to first discuss with other members of the household any changes or domestic decisions you would like to make that would affect them. If you don't, you will be rebuffed later.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Unfortunately, problems at work will be traceable to your poor concentration. Remain focused on your assignments at all times, because the minute your back is turned, things will go awry.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- There is rarely a good time to gamble or speculate, so think twice about putting up money you can't afford to lose on something that is sheer, wild guesswork. Chances are you will lose.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You will find yourself up front marching all alone if you decide to champion what everyone else says is an unpopular cause. It would be far wiser to wait until you can muster reliable support.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Complications with which you will be faced are of your own making, but what will make matters far worse is if you attempt to blame these unhappy mishaps on others. Fess up and take responsibility.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - It's always a big mistake to yield to peer pressure and do something that is totally against your better judgment. If you are weak and cave in, you will have to accept the bitter consequences.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Too many irons in the fire usually proves to be self-defeating. If you have a lot of things to do, you should attempt to do less but do each well rather than perform a mediocre job on all of them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- For vanity reasons, you might feel it is necessary to pretend you are knowledgeable about something that, in reality, you are not. Your bluff will be called, and your pretense will be embarrassing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Don't give into inclinations to poke your nose into something that doesn't concern you or your interests. If you do, you had better be prepared to accept the consequences that this behavior brings.

Let a Want Ad $tart ringing your phone.
Call 724-684-2612 or 724-684-2613

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877-252-6952

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Chevrolet
The Little Guys in Bentlyville
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Century III
Dodge
911 Clairton Blvd. Route 51
412-469-2800

C. Harper
Autoplex
Rts. 51 & 71
Belle Vernon, PA
724-929-8000

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Rt. 51 Belle Vernon
727-929-2900

Davies
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Route 88-McKean Ave.
Charleroi, PA
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Ford of Connellsville
Route 119 N.
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Elite Motors
Country Club Road
Monongahela, PA
724-258-5124

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724-684-9100

Gerry Raymond
Chrysler • Jeep • Dodge • Subaru
4803 Rt. 51
Belle Vernon
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January 2008

MONESSEN

WINTER Wonderland

"Save Money, Save Gas... Shop & Dine in Monessen"

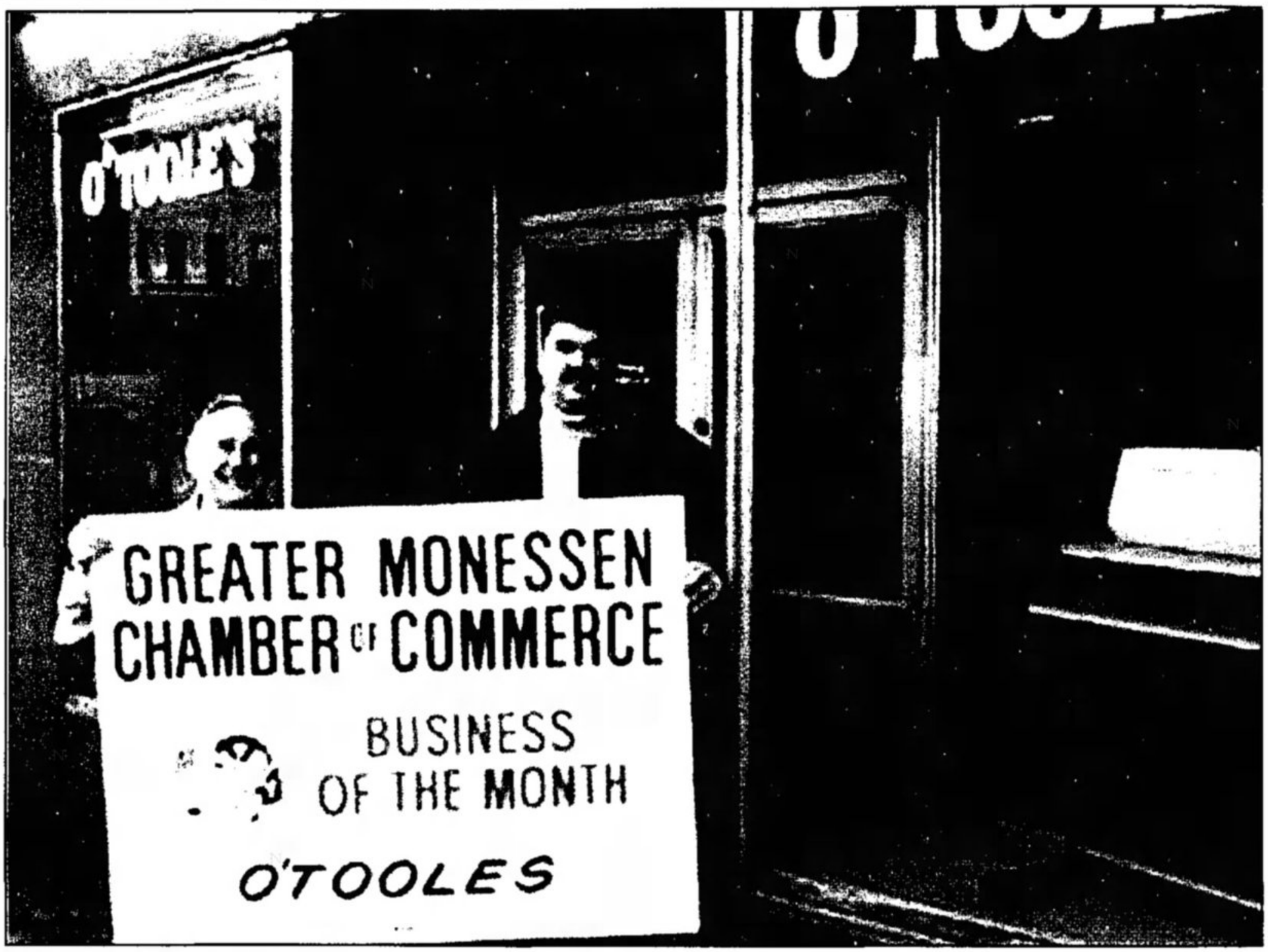
An Advertising Supplement to

THE Valley INDEPENDENT
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

Over 70 Stores - More Choices Than You'd Imagine

Business of the Month

O'Toole Office Machines was named Business of the Month for December by the Greater Monessen Chamber of Commerce. O'Toole repairs and sells many types of office equipment. Shown are Mr. Zubrisky and Tom Rapp, owner.



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ONE FOOTLONG.....$4.79 plus tax
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Excludes New Sub Specials, Feast and Double Meat Subs.
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ALL DAY EVERYDAY
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Tuna or Steak & Cheese Footlongs plus tax
With this coupon at Monessen Subway only.
Not valid with any other special offer. Coupon Required.
Fax Order Sheets Upon Request

By GARY BOATMAN
President, Greater Monessen Chamber of Commerce

Help the economy; buy locally

When you buy from local businesses instead of large national companies, you help the local economy. Here is why: Locally owned businesses give an average of 250 percent more to non-profit organizations than national businesses.

Community-based businesses hire local people who better understand their customers and provide better customer service. These employees know their customers and live in the same neighborhoods as their consumers.

Statistics show that for every two jobs that a national retailer brings to a community, the local retailers create three jobs. This is because all of the operations are conducted in the community and not in an out of town home office.

Money that is spent in the local community re-circulates two to three times and has more economic impact than dollars spent at national retailers. This is because local retailers buy many of their supplies from other local businesses.

Monessen businesses want to thank all of our customers and encourage the rest of the community to save money and save gas. Visit our over 70 businesses that deal with the public.

100 years ago in Monessen

In January of 1908, J. A. Sheetz opened an annex to the hotel he owned on Schoonmaker Avenue between Eleventh and Twelfth Streets. The brick annex made the Sheetz Hotel one of the most modern hostelries in the county.

Twenty-six additional rooms were added with most of them having private baths. Three first-class bowling alleys were installed in the basement with a barber shop, and billiard and pool parlor added on the first. Joseph H. Hormuth was in charge of the four barber chairs. William Kelly handled the eight pool and billiard tables. The entire annex cost $18,000.

In early 1908, J.B. Farnsworth opened a menagerie of unusual animals in a room adjoining the Grand Hotel on Donner Avenue. The exhibit featured a six-legged sheep, four-legged duck, a waltzing mouse, monkeys, birds and snakes. Farnsworth was an experienced showman who taught the animals to eat from his hand. Admission was 10 cents for adults and five cents for children. It was stressed the cages were kept very clean and nothing objectionable to women or children would be permitted.

Thanks to the Monessen Historical Society for help with this information.

What's new in Monessen?

Discover Monessen

Monessen business offers many unique things. Each month, this circular will cover several of these businesses and let you know about their special offerings. Be sure to look for this exciting news each month.

Located at 451 Donner Avenue in Monessen, **Any-Kind-A-Wear** is well known for providing a full range of professional apparel alterations & tailoring, garment repair, zipper replacements and much more. However, did you know that Any-Kind-A-Wear also offers a full range of screen printing, embroidery and transfer services?

The in-house decorations department can provide you with start-to-finish items, from design concept to completed project. Whether you are looking for promotional T-shirts for your business and/or employees to fully embroidered polo or denim shirts to promote your professionalism, Any-Kind-A-Wear can do it.

If you are looking for that unique gift for yourself or that certain special person, the "Novelty X-Press™" items may be what you have been looking for. With no minimums, you can design and have a custom T-Shirt, hoodie, sweatshirt, etc... with whatever you want on it. Most items can be created and ready within 30 minutes. (Copyrighted, trademarked and licensed designs are not allowed.)

Hours of operation Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Monessen **Subway** is located in the Mon-Valley Shopping Center and offers all of the Subway sandwiches, wraps and salads. New at Subway are personal pizzas.

Every meal is made fresh to order and features healthy selections. All orders are available for take out or to eat in Subway's beautiful dinning room. The store is open seven days a week.

If you are having a party, don't forget Subway's giant subs and party platters. These would be great for you Super Bowl parties.

Please call the store to place an order for these party specialties. Subway, Eat Fresh.

Over the past decade, one's traditional style of scrapbooking has transformed into an elaborate display of memories. By utilizing background papers and embellishments one may complete a scrapbook page with great ease. **Expressions of Yesterday**, located at 216 Third St., is a scrapbook supply store that offers beginner classes and several other technique classes that will introduce you to the world of scrapbooking.

Expressions of Yesterday carries a wide variety of scrapbooking items, including embellishments for local school districts in the area.

EOY also specializes in cutting personalized die cuts in addition to making custom made scrapbooks. Many scrapbooking supplies can also be used to make cards, invitations and other unique crafts.

Visit the Web site at www.expressionsofyesterday.com for further information. Expressions of Yesterday is the largest scrapbooking store in the Mon Valley.

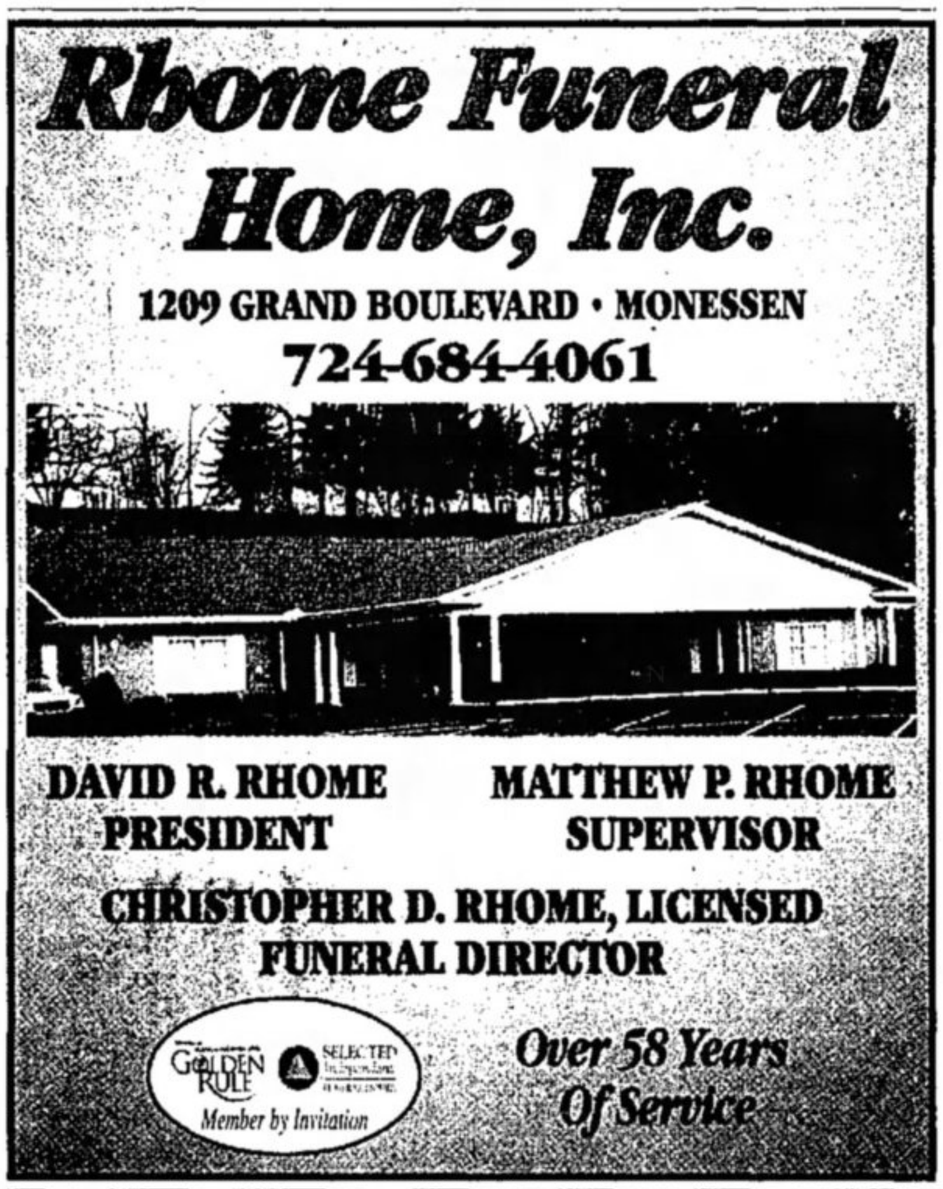
O'Toole's Business Equipment is entering its 34th year of business. Repairs of all brands of printers, cash registers, copiers and other office equipment is available. Sales include all types of printers, a complete line of Sam4 cash registers, office and Hippa compliant furniture, the complete line of Mita/Copystar Copiers from desktop to stand-alone units, and other office machinery and supplies.

O'Toole's is located at 519 Donner Ave. and can be reached at (724) 684-3730. Talk to their knowledgeable and friendly staff today.

New programs from Monessen Library

Jenise Sileo, the new children's librarian at the Monessen Public Library & District Center, is pleased to announce the following upcoming programs at the library.

A free demo from Kindermusik has been added to the Winter Wonderland Story Hour on Wednesday Jan. 30, at from 10:30 to 11 a.m. On Thursday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m.. a dental assistant from the office of Dr. Thomas Persico, DMD will come to help celebrate National Children's Dental Health month. The library is also forming an American Girls Book Club, a 10 Minute Book Read, and a Theater Read Club! Please stop by or call the Monessen Public Library & District Center at (724) 684-4750.



What's new in Monessen?

Super Bowl parties in Monessen

On. Feb. 3 the nation will be tuned into the Super Bowl. While it will not be as exciting as if the Steelers were playing, there will still be many parties.

Make things easier for yourself by ordering a deli tray from Monessen Foodland. There are also delicious choices available from the Pasta Shoppe and Felicia's. Maybe consider a giant sub from Subway?

Why not order a pizza from Armando's? Often selected as the Valley's best pizza, Armando's delivers. Call (724) 684-5105.

Giannini's features one of the Valley's largest selection of imported and domestic beers. Don't for forget a cake and buns from Keystone Bakery. Be proud and wear you Steelers gear.

Just in case you need any more, check out the assortment at Buzzy's and Hair Especially For You. Next year we will all be chanting, "Here we go Steelers, here we go!

New service from Monessen Library

The Monessen Public Library & District Center is now subscribed to OVERDRIVE, which is a web-based digital media platform that enables library patrons to download popular digital audio books, music, and video from your library's Web site.

This means that anyone with a Monessen Library card can use their computer to access books, music and videos. All one has to do is go to the Monessen Public Library & District Center Web site at www.monpldc.org, log in using their library card and download media to their home computers and portable mp3 players.

The Monessen Public Library & District Center also received a grant to purchase Books on CD and has added hundreds of new titles to this collection.

If you have any questions, please contact the Monessen Public Library & District Center at (724) 684-4750.

Use your Enjoy Book in Monessen

You can save money when you use your enjoy book in Monessen. Check out the two money-saving coupons for Felicia's Restaurant. Also, you can save at Steel City Grille.

Union Cleaners has a monthly special coupon. Top Video also has a monthly money-saving coupon. These offers are another way you can save money and save gas by shopping in Monessen.

Don't miss our Web site

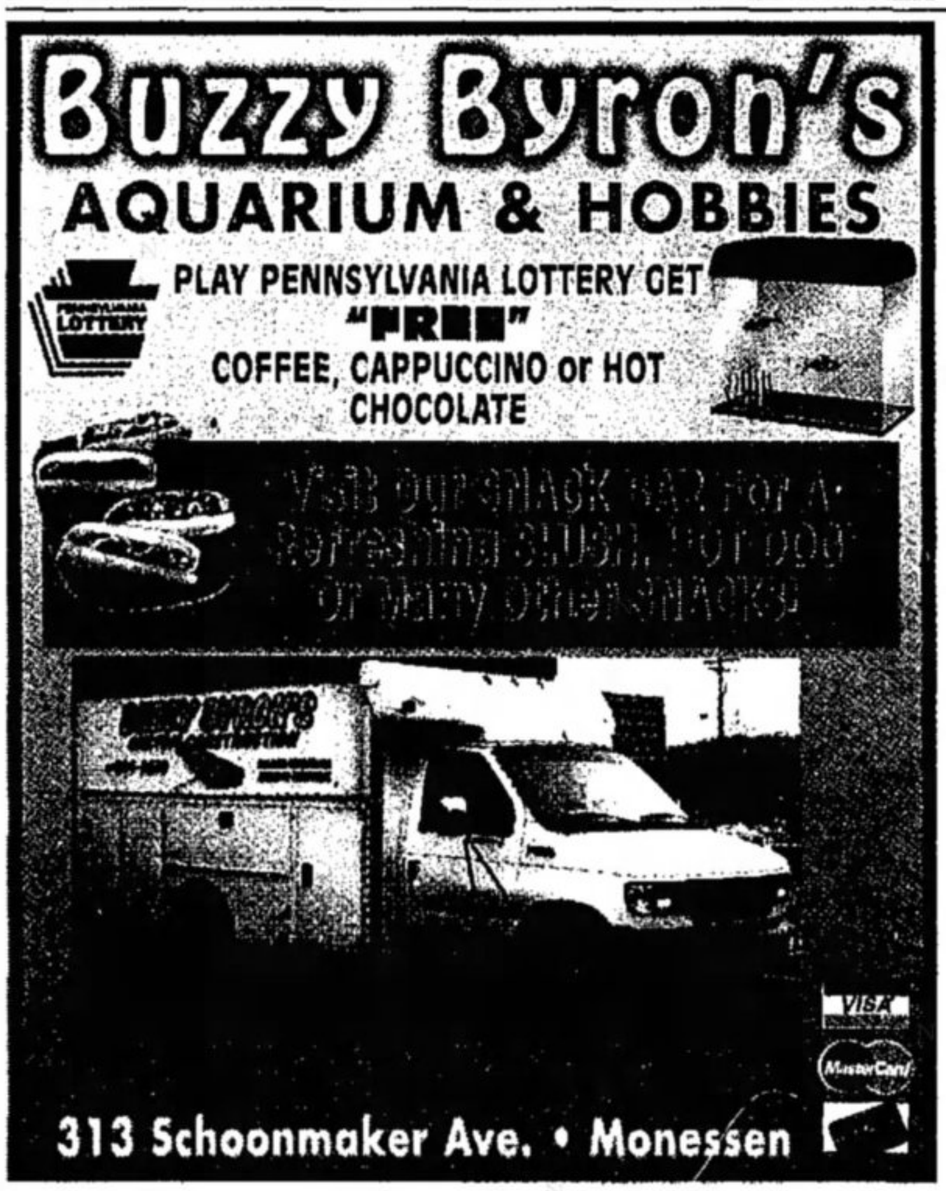
Visit our new web site — www.monessenchamberofcommerce.com. — to find out what is happening in Monessen. Our calendar will keep you up to date on fun events. There are copies of past circulars, so you and your friends can keep up to date on things that are happening all over town.

Be sure to bookmark this address in your computer. Also, let your entire out of town family and friends know about this informative site.

Health and Welfare Authority

The Mon Valley Health and Welfare Authority was created in 1965 and charged with the responsibility to plan, raise funds, construct and maintain a center for Health and Human Services. As a result of the Authorities tireless efforts, the Mon Valley Community Health Center was built and dedicated by Governor Milton Shapp in 1971.

The center is a beautiful well-maintained four-story structure centrally located in the heart of the Mon Valley in



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1 Month Unlimited = $30.00
Expires March 31, 2008
Park Center Plaza
Grand Boulevard
Monessen
(724) 684-6198

the Eastgate section of Monessen. The building, which is located along bus routes, is handicapped accessible, has two new elevators, conference room facilities and over 250 free parking spaces.

The Center can accommodate your needs in terms of space and amenities for your employees and clients/patients/customers.

Space is available at a reasonable rate that includes janitorial services and all utilities. Please call (724) 684-9000, x4102 for more information.

If you are looking for office space in the Mid-Mon Valley, you must see this building. It is the most centrally located to service the entire area. Why not call and arrange a tour today?

Beautiful new hall at St. Spyridon

The next time you need to book a hall for some special occasion, why not consider St. Spyridon"s in Monessen. Recent renovations include a chandelier that will add a touch of class to your next event.

There is a large selection of delicious food prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. Many size events can be held.Why not call (724) 684-4841.

Taxidermy shop

Nature's Pathway is a new taxidermy shop located on Donner Avenue in Monessen.

A GREAT MON VALLEY LOCATION
AT AFFORDABLE RATES
The Mon Valley Community Health Center

FOR LEASE INFORMATION CALL
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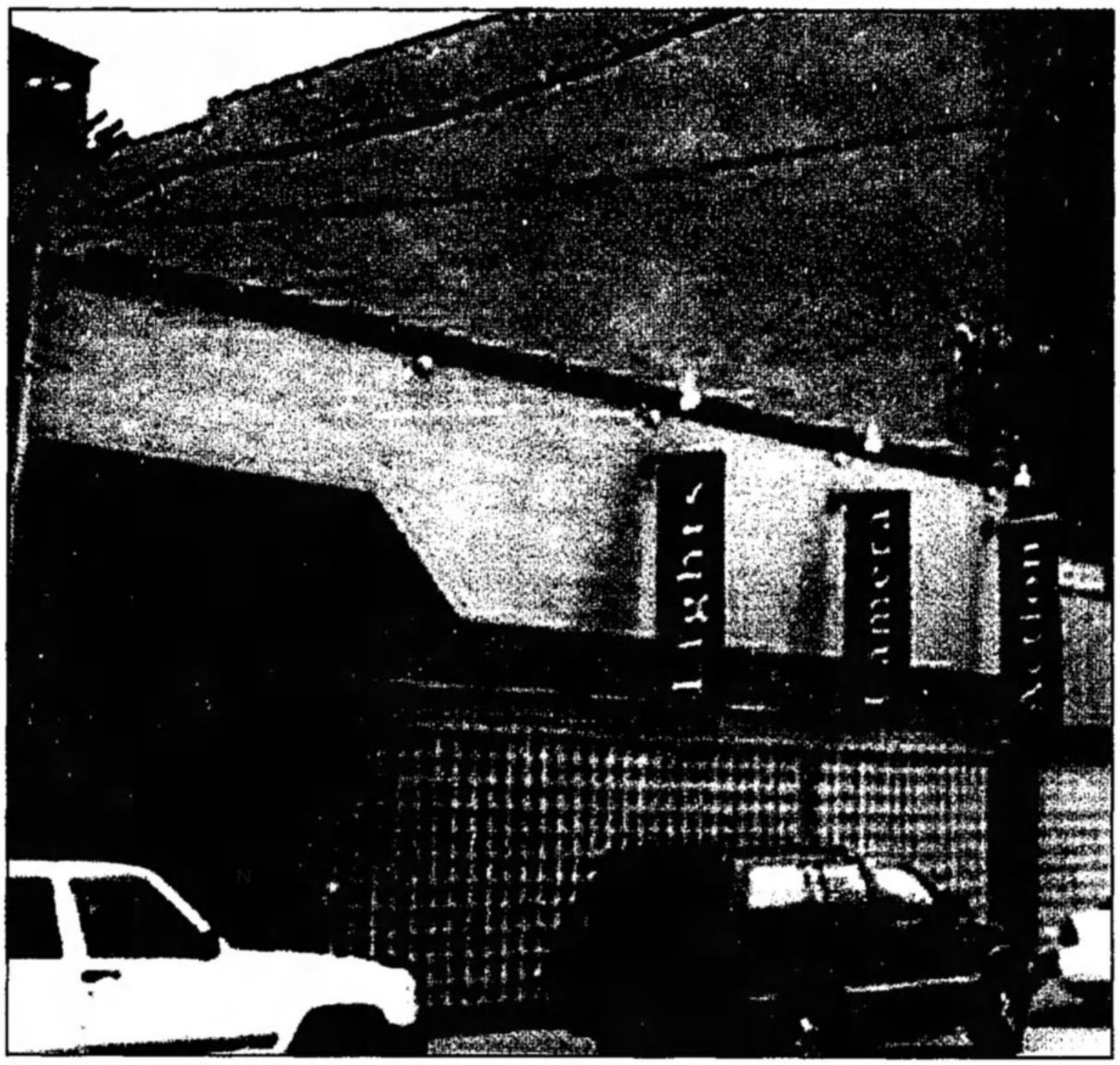
Hollywood moves into Monessen with the filming of a new movie



A new feature film, "Feast of the Seven Fishes" will be filmed in the studio of the Douglas Education Center in Monessen.

"Lights," "Camera" and "Action" are the words showcased on the banners lining the outside of the new film building at Douglas Education Center.

In February, the building will welcome the first batch of students to the newly created "Tom Savini's Digital Film Production Program."

But before the students arrive, those three words will ring true for another exciting project. Writer and director Robert Tinnell is bringing Hollywood right here to Monessen as he and his crew will be filming their feature film "Feast of the Seven Fishes" in the Douglas film studio as well as in and around the Mon Valley.

The movie, based on a graphic novel written by Tinnell and published in 2005, is set at Christmastime, 1983. The family-friendly movie follows an Italian boy through a romantic adventure as he finds a nice not Italian girl and has to introduce her to "la famiglia" as well as the interesting tradition of the Feast of the Seven Fishes on Christmas Eve.

For more information and to stay updated on the latest news visit www.sevenfishes-blog.com or www.douglas-school.com.

The cast has yet to be announced, but Tom Savini will have a small role in the film.

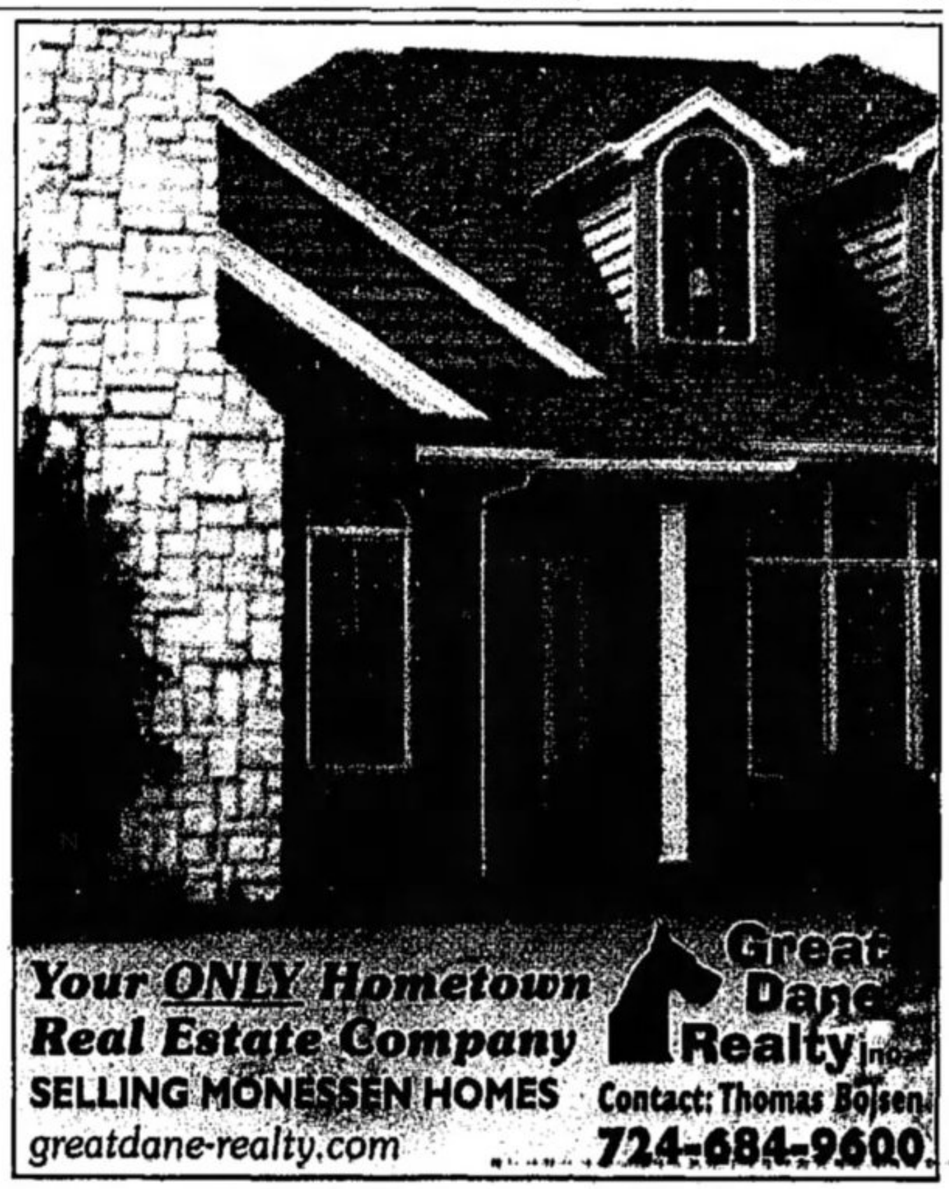
Tinnell and his crew will be in the area for the next few months and are very excited to be here in town.

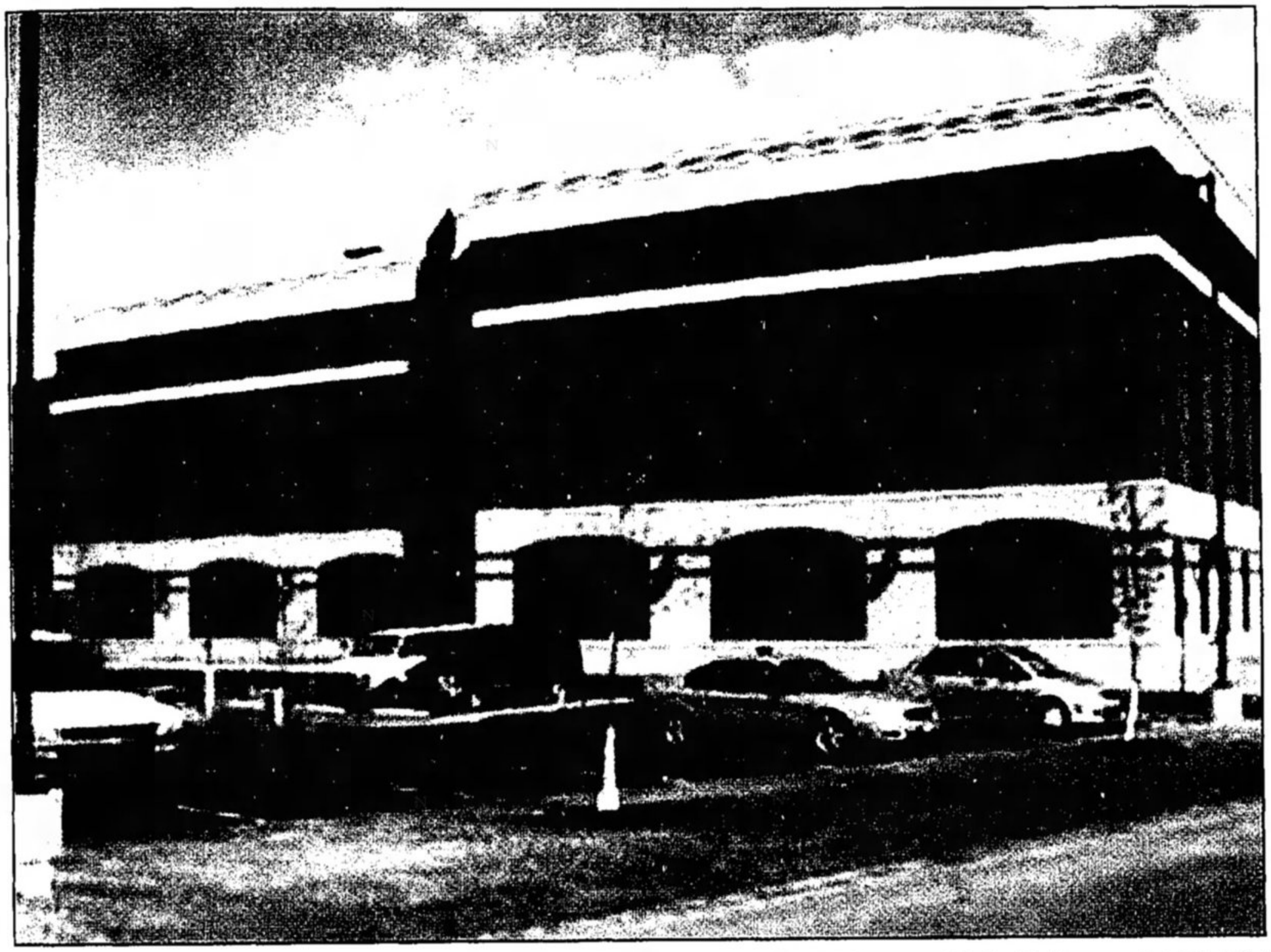
"I love the look of Monessen," said Tinnell. "The back drops are fantastic and to have a new soundstage to work on (at Douglas) is incredible."

Students will have the unique opportunity to observe some of the filming and get a real-life take on what the film industry is all about. Tinnell also hopes to offer his expertise and advice through guest seminars with the film students in his free time.

"I love teaching," said Tinnel. "I think this will be a great experience for the students to learn right out of the gate, the right way to make a movie."

The community will also get an opportunity to get in on the action. Tinnell says they will need a lot of extras and there will be a day for the community to come out and sign up.





Going green in Monessen

The 52,000-square-foot Green Energy Building is one of many business centers located in Monessen.

TED HARHAI

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

58th District

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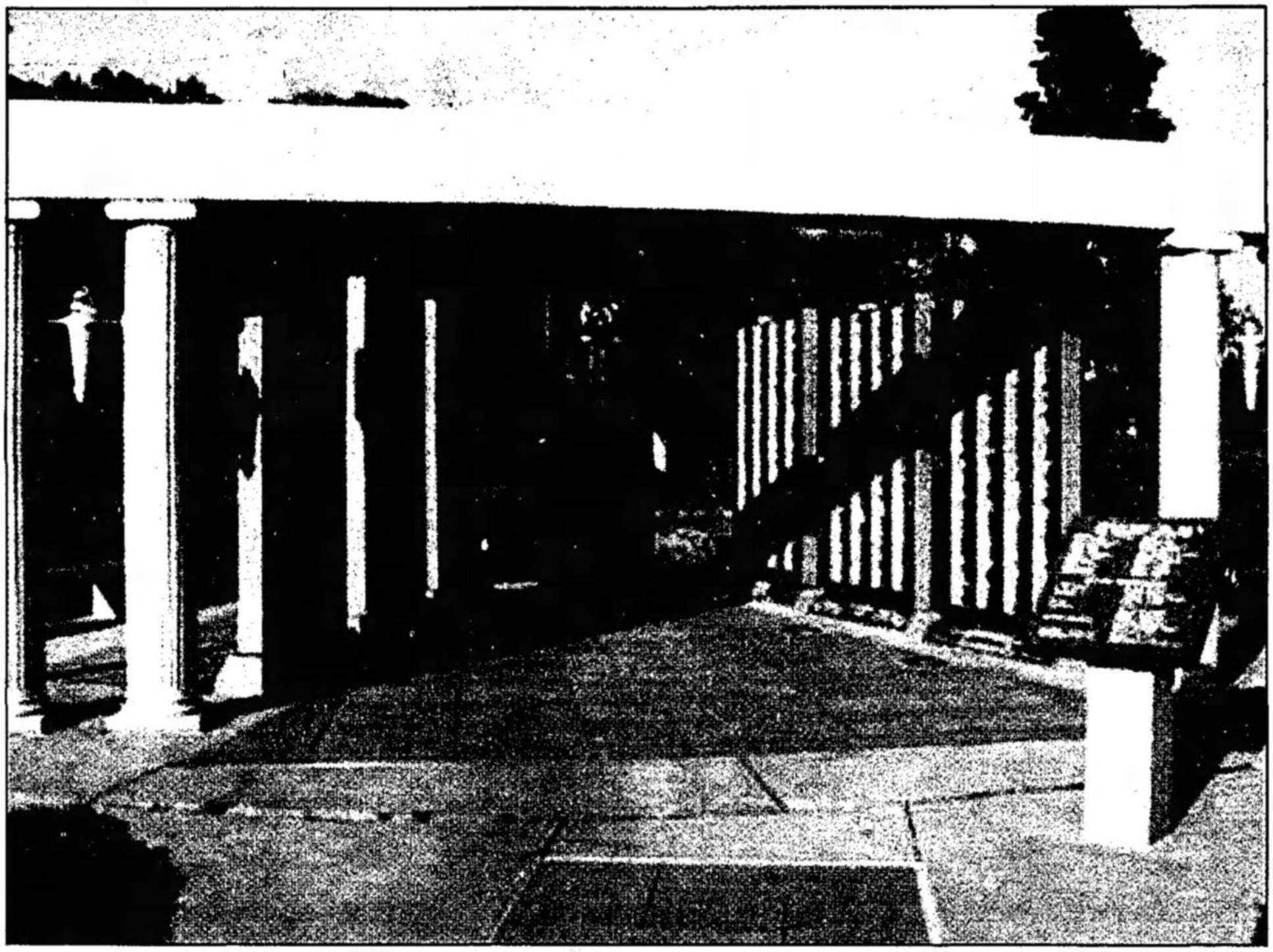
monvalleyhospital.com

724-258-1000

Honoring our veterans

On behalf of the Greater Monessen Chamber of Commerce and all Monessen businesses, we would like to remember the sacrifices made by all of our veterans.



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Operated by St. Vincent de Paul Society Mon Valley Council

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